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MISSION ARRIVES IN GENEVA; KARPOV MAKES STATEMENT

LD101225 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Geneva March 10 TASS -- The USSR's delegation arrived here today for talks with the U.S. delegation on nuclear and space arms.

The leader of the Soviet delegation, Viktor Karpov, said in a statement upon the delegation's arrival in the airport that the basis for these negotiations is the agreement as to their subject and objectives reached at the Soviet-U.S. meeting in January 1985, which calls for the consideration and solution of a complex of questions concerning nuclear and space arms in their inter-relationship. It affords an opportunity for productive work and reaching solutions aimed at preventing an arms race in space and terminating it on earth, at limiting and reducing nuclear arms, and at strengthening strategic stability.

Agreement on and implementation of far-reaching measures in these areas would be an important step towards attaining a truly historic goal -- that of ultimately eliminating nuclear arms completely and everywhere.

It is this course that the USSR delegation is going to follow at the negotiations on nuclear and space arms. The USSR delegation has been instructed by the Soviet leadership to negotiate in a businesslike and constructive manner seeking effective solutions to the questions to be discussed at the negotiations. In doing so, this delegation will be consistently guided by the principle of equality and equal security, which precludes either party to the negotiations from gaining unilateral advantages.

In conclusion the head of the Soviet delegation expressed gratitude to the Swiss Government and the authorities of the Canton and the City of Geneva for their hospitality.

PROSPECTS FOR GENEVA ARMS TALKS ASSESSED

IZVESTIYA on Talks' Aim

LD101205 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1100 GMT 10 Mar 85

["IZVESTIYA Leading Article" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Mar (TASS) -- In an article, "Eve of Geneva," the newspaper IZVESTIYA writes:

On 12 March in Geneva, new Soviet-American talks begin with the aim of working out effective accords directed at averting the arms race in space and stopping it on earth, and limiting and reducing nuclear armaments. Ultimately, the forthcoming talks, like the efforts in the sphere of arms limitation and reduction generally, must lead to the total abolition of nuclear weapons everywhere.

It is exactly in those words that the participants of the Geneva talks outlined the range of questions and their significance. That is why one can say with full justification that what is on the agenda for Geneva is the future of our planet. Replying to the letter from American veterans of World War II, K.U. Chernenko stressed: "Soviet-American cooperation is vitally necessary today, when it is a question of whether there is to be life on earth." Yes, that is precisely the question -- to be or not to be. That is how the essence of Geneva is to be interpreted.

As is known, the USSR and United States agreed that all questions concerning space weapons and nuclear weapons will be considered and solved comprehensively and in connection with each other. This is absolutely essential for a successful outcome. And the problem of not permitting an arms race breakthrough into space is of decisive importance. Otherwise, the buildup of weapons of mass destruction will acquire a qualitatively new uncontrolled character in all directions. A sword of Damocles will be hanging over mankind in the literal sense. This must happen on no account. Such is the will of the peoples. Not for nothing did the last UN General Assembly session virtually unanimously adopt a resolution that the militarization of space must not be permitted.

Unfortunately, there are forces in the United States that dream of turning space into a weapons platform [boyevaya ploshchadka] in order to dictate their will from this platform to other states, primarily the Soviet Union. Our answer to such "dreamers" with their delirium about "star wars" is quite categorical: They will not succeed in implementing plans to achieve military superiority, either on earth or in space. The idea of hiding behind an antimissile shield to avoid retribution for aggression is illusory. So is it not better to seek honest and mutually acceptable agreements [dogovorennosti] in order to put the brakes on the arms race? This is just the line the Soviet Union will take at the forthcoming talks in Geneva.

Our principled positions and intentions in this matter were set out with extreme precision and clarity in Comrade K.U. Chernenko's election speech to the assembly of the working people in the Kuybyshevskiy constituency of Moscow.

It was said: We are not striving to obtain any unilateral advantages over the United States and over the NATO countries, or for military superiority over them. We do not need this as we do not intend to threaten them or impose our will upon them, but want to live in peace with them and to maintain normal, good relations.

It was said: We want a halting of the arms race and not its continuation. That is precisely why the USSR is raising the question also of such preliminary steps as freezing the sides' nuclear arsenals, terminating further deployments of missiles, and so on. Utilizing the negotiations for opposite aims -- for justifying and camouflaging the further accumulation and deployment of means of mass destruction -- we consider to be an immoral and wanton pursuit, a deception of peoples and a crime before them.

It was said: We want a real reduction of the stockpiled armaments, and, as a beginning, destruction of a considerable part of them -- and not the creation of more and more new weapons system, whether in space or on earth, offensive or supposedly defensive. And our ultimate aim is the complete destruction of nuclear weapons everywhere on our planet, complete elimination of the threat of nuclear war.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo examined and passed the directives for the USSR delegation. It emphasized that the Soviet side will act vigorously and constructively at the talks.

Not everything, however, depends on the Soviet Union and its goodwill. If agreement is to be achieved and Geneva is to be a success, there must also be a similar willingness on the other side. And here it ought to be made absolutely clear that the international public cannot fail to be alerted by the maneuvers that Washington is undertaking on the eve of Geneva with the obvious intention of poisoning the atmosphere surrounding the talks from the very beginning and making it difficult to examine the problems on the agenda in a businesslike and constructive manner. It is enough to point to the Pentagon's new draft budget, which envisages an unprecedented buildup of the American strategic arsenal, including allocations for the so-called "strategic defense initiative," i.e., if we dispense with the propaganda flourishes, for the militarization of space.

Moreover, efforts are being made to use the Geneva talks themselves as a sort of battering ram with which to push that budget through the U.S. Congress. It is no coincidence, for instance, that the vote on allocations for the new MX intercontinental ballistic missiles is to be held immediately after the start of the Geneva talks. As THE WASHINGTON POST writes, the administration is counting on "the light of Geneva" to "preserve the life of MX."

No, that is not what people expect from Geneva; they expect that weapons of mass destruction will not be kept alive, but rather that nuclear missile weapons will be destroyed. Therein lies the genuine light of Geneva.

The eve of Geneva is the eve of the 40th anniversary of victory over Hitlerite fascism... A simple coincidence of calendar dates might seem to assume a deep symbolic meaning. It reminds us both of the disastrous consequences of world wars and of the possibility of fruitful cooperation for the purpose of averting them. Of course, we harbor no illusions -- the talks will be difficult. However, we are also far from fatalistic despair. Our country is willing to travel honestly its own part of the path toward mutually acceptable accords. We expect the same of the United States.

All mankind expects that the Geneva talks will succeed, and that the forces of peace and reason will be victorious.

Zhukov PRAVDA Article

LD102349 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2145 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow, 11th Mar (TASS) -- The following is the full text of PRAVDA political observer Yuriy Zhukov's article, published today under the heading "To Talk in Earnest."

"And so, tomorrow the delegations of the Soviet Union and the United States will begin negotiations in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons. Tens and hundreds of millions of people all over the world will follow the course of these talks closely, especially the Soviet people and Americans, who are aware of the enormous importance that agreements on these issues would have for the future.

It goes without saying that the achievement of an accord on these issues is no easy thing, and it is perfectly clear that the talks will be difficult, but the Soviet side, setting out for the talks, is far from perceiving them as fatally hopeless.

If they are carried out strictly in accordance with the accords achieved as a result of the meeting of the leaders of both countries' foreign policy departments in Geneva on 7-8 January, it can and must be ensured that these negotiations move forward constructively. Let us recall once more these accords, which preclude all vagueness and misunderstanding.

"The subject of the talks beginning tomorrow: 'The sides agree that the subject of the negotiations will be a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms -- both strategic and intermediate-range -- with all these questions considered and resolved in their interrelationship.'

"The aim of the talks: "To work out effective agreements aimed at preventing an arms race in space and terminating it on earth, at limiting and reducing nuclear arms and at strengthening strategic stability... The sides believe that ultimately the forthcoming negotiations, just as efforts in general to limit and reduce arms, should lead to the complete elimination of nuclear arms everywhere."

The fact that the achievement of these accords was no easy task is no secret. Initally the American side tried to prevent discussion of issues to do with the nonmilitarization of space and wished to keep space open to the arms race. But common sense finally gained the upper hand and the point of view firmly upheld by the Soviet side triumphed: That it is impossible to consider either the issue of strategic weapons, or the medium-range nuclear weapons issue without discussing the question of the nonmilitarization of space.

Thus came into being an accord embodying an important joint obligation, adopted by the USSR and the United States before the whole world. It was confirmed by both sides. In this way, the basis was created for conducting talks in a serious and purposeful manner. 'The point is, as Comrade K.U. Chernenko noted when replying to questions from a correspondent of the American CNN Television Company, honorably to observe the accord reached in Geneva, and in practice to uphold it strictly in all its parts.'

Uphold it in all its parts! This is the essence of the matter. Indeed, international agreements and accords are not a restaurant menu, from which one may choose what one likes and leave unattended that which is not to one's taste.

As for the Soviet side, it has of late repeatedly confirmed at the highest level that our delegation at the incipient talks will act in strict conformity with the joint accord, opening the way for agreement on all questions that are to be discussed in interrelation and expects the same of the American side. There is not and cannot be any other way to achieve successful results.

This should be recalled time and again, because on the eve of the talks statements were repeatedly being made in Washington, including at the highest level, that the United States does not intend to halt preparations for the militarization of outer space.

Furthermore, Paul Nitze, adviser to the U.S. secretary of state, took the liberty of declaring on 3 March at a session of the Los Angeles Council for International Affairs, that allegedly the so-called 'strategic defense initiative' of President R. Reagan, dubbed 'star wars,' 'will not be discussed at the talks table' at all.

At the same time it is precisely now, when they push especially hard through the Congress a colossal military budget for 1986, maintaining that it is necessary in order... to secure the success of the talks with the Soviet Union on limiting weapons.

"On Monday President Reagan directly connected the forthcoming Geneva talks with the deployment of the expensive intercontinental ballistic missiles 'MX', D. Rather, the TV company CBC news presenter reported. As he stated, Congress should approve the spending on this new weapon program. In his words, a negative vote in either house of Congress will undermine the U.S. position at the talks."

The talks beginning tomorrow will show the meaning of the propaganda campaign which was conducted with such heat during the last few weeks and ignored the Soviet-U.S. accord on the subject and the objective of the talks: Was it an attempt to create a psychological climate for bargaining in Geneva or was it a real rejection of this accord and a desire to achieve military superiority.

In both cases this would be an attempt by faulty methods. Soviet diplomacy has strong nerves. And as to designs for U.S. military superiority, they, as Comrade K.U. Chernenko stated in the speech to electorate, are doomed to failure [besperspektivny].

The conclusion: It is necessary to do business in Geneva. An agreement there, as considered by the USSR, is absolutely necessary and is quite possible, if the talks are based on the principle of equality and equal security, and if not only the Soviet but also the U.S. side will talk seriously.

Nikonov on Prospects

PM081530 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[A. Nikonov article: "On an Integrated and Interconnected Basis"]

[Text] Soviet-U.S. talks will begin in Geneva on 12 March. All who value the cause of peace are awaiting them with attention and hope. This is understandable, for the questions that will be discussed and resolved during the upcoming talks have to to with cardinal problems of the present day and concern the vital interests of mankind.

The Soviet-U.S. joint statement records that a package of questions relating to the nonmilitarization of space and the limitation and reduction of nuclear arms, strategic and medium-range, will be the subject of the talks. The aim of the talks is to prevent an arms race in space and end it on earth. In his speech addressed to voters, Comrade K.U. Chernenko pointed specially to the fact that the USSR and the United States "have agreed to examine and resolve questions of space and nuclear arms on an integrated and interconnected basis, which is absolutely essential for the success of the matter. This is the chief purport of the Geneva accord."

Of course, it is not an easy matter to discuss and resolve such complex questions simultaneously, in close coordination with each other, but the contemporary situation provides no other possibilities, and the accord that was reached must be strictly fulfilled. The structure of the talks proposed by the Soviet Union and accepted by the U.S. side is in full accordance with this.

The need for a comprehensive approach to resolving questions of nuclear arms and the nomilitarization of space has been occasioned not by considerations of expediency or for subjective reasons but by the real changes that have been taking place in the world strategic situation in recent years. The responsibility for this situation lies with those U.S. forces that switched their country's political course from the path of detente to the path of confrontation in the late 1970's and early 1980's and subordinated their policy to the desire to upset the established strategic equilibrium and achieve U.S. and NATO military superiority over the USSR and the Warsaw Pact countries as a whole.

To this end the United States began implementing programs aimed at trying to overtake the Soviet Union in the sphere of strategic nuclear arms and, at the same time, gradually shifting the arms race into space.

The deployment, which began at the end of 1983, of 572 American Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Europe in addition tothe medium-range nuclear means already there, has seriously destablized the strategic situation by undermining the accords reached earlier. Since these new means are capable of making nuclear strikes against targets on the territory of the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact countries, their appearance on the European Continent signifies an actual increase in American strategic arms. The appearance of new American nuclear means in West Europe upsets strategic stability on not only a regional but also a global level.

The USSR repeatedly warned that the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear means in West Europe would lead to a serious change in the strategic situation and make it impossible to continue the Soviet-U.S. talks that were being held at the time. The American side ignored those warnings. Thus, it bears all the responsibility for the failure of the previous talks. The circumstances connected with the deployment of American medium-range nuclear means in Europe cannot be disregarded at the new talks.

It is impossible now to limit or, still less, reduce nuclear arms without taking effective measures to prevent an arms race in space. However, as the start of the talks draws nearer, U.S. statsmen have been making more frequent and insistent statements that the American Administration, contrary to that principled accord, would like to detach or even altogether remove space arms from the context of the talks.

Statements by many American officials, who follow the U.S. President's lead in bluntly declaring that, regardless of the course and outcome of the Soviet-U.S. talks, the planned military space programs will be fulfilled at an accelerated pace, are couched in the same negative spirit.

Moreover, it has to be stated that the matter is not limited to statements alone. Work on the practical realization of military space programs is being developed on a growing scale in the United States. Major scientific centers and industrial corporations are involved in implementing the plans for space militarization. Some $26 billion has been allocated for these purposes. All in all, the United States is preparing to spend $1 trillion on the "star wars" program. The fact that special organs of the military space command have been set up and begun functioning also says a great deal.

In direct contradication with the termless 1972 Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems, work is in full swing in the United States to create mobile ABM radar stations, Minuteman missiles are being tested to give them the qualities of antimissile missiles, multiple warheads are being created for antimissile missiles, and Pave Paws radar stations are being deployed to provide ABM defense radar cover over the greater part of U.S. territory.

It is no coincidence that the Western press points out that Washington not only does not wish to abandon the planned programs but is seeking to make them irreversible and to foist the policy of militarism and of a race for space-based strike weapons and other arms on future generations. If events continue to develop in the same direction, they will enter into obvious conflict with the accord reached in Geneva on the aim of the talks: to prevent an arms race in space and end it on earth.

The Soviet Union's warning that U.S. violation of that accord would entail very grave consequences indicates how seriously it treats the accord.

The Soviet Union's firm position, which rules out any misinterpretation [krivotolki], has been dictated by a profound understanding of the tremendous danger that would be posed to all mankind by the creation and deployment of strike space weapons systems. The USSR has proceeded and continues to proceed from the premise that mankind must be delivered from the prospect of "star wars." This means that no weapons of any kind, conventional, nuclear, laser, beam, or any others, must be put into space or deployed in space, whether on manned or unmanned systems.

Under contemporary conditions the closest and most immediate threat stems from attempts to create a comprehensive ABM defense system with space-based elements within the framework of the so-called "strategic defense initiative" proclaimed in the United States. The Soviet side has officially stated that if the American Administration did not have plans to create such a system, the question of bringing space into the upcoming talks would not have arisen.

The plans to create such a system have nothing to do with defense. They are of an aggressive nature, and their true purpose is to enable the United States, under cover of a "space shield," to acquire the ability to make a nuclear first strike and deprive the other side of the possibility of responding adquately.

Account must also be taken of the fact that the very adoption of programs to create a large-scale ABM system, not to mention practice measures to implement them, has a very destabilizing effect on the world's situation, threatening to give a new boost to the arms race, moreover in the sphere not only of space arms but also of other types of arms, including offensive strategic nuclear missile arms. Indeed, an interconnection has always existed objectively between defensive and offensive weapons systems, and it is not hard to foresee that the efforts of one side to create a comprehensive ABM system with space-based elements, upsetting the military equilibrium, would force the other side to strengthen its strategic potential.

The introduction of a new destabilizating element into the equalization of the world strategic balance would have consequences for many countries, which would find themselves in the sights of American space systems. Those figures in NATO countries who believe that Washington's military space plans are directed only against the Soviet Union and its friends and allies and that therefore they should not only approve the ambitions of their transatlantic ally but also join in realizing them are profoundly mistaken.

Such a position is shortsighted, to say the least. It ignores the fact that shifting the arms race into space will create a threat of a global nature and affect the vital interests of the peoples of all countries and continents. If not prevented, it could undermine the entire system of international security and cause dangerous new elements of unpredictability and uncertainty to appear in the world military-political siuation.

This cannot be permitted. The peoples of the world have a right to hope that everything necessary will be done at the upcoming Soviet-U.S. talks to prevent an arms race in space and end it on earth, and this will clear the way to the genuine limitation and reduction of nuclear arms and then to their total liquidation.

The sides' differences of opinion over the questions to be discussed at the upcoming Geneva talks are great. Yet, as Comrade K.U. Chernenko pointed out, "an accord is perfectly possible, since for this it is necessary only to respect the rights and the legitimate security interests of both sides and not seek to upset the established equilibrium of forces."

For the success of the talks each side must display the political will to conduct the talks honestly, to resolve the questions in close interconnection, and to display sincere readiness for sensible compromises on the basis of equality and identical security. This is precisely how the Soviet Union has acted and will continue to act. If the United States acts in the same way, the talks will be able to justify the hopes pinned on them by the world's peoples.

Stockholm Delegate Comments

LD102104 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1458 GMT 10 Mar 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Gennadiy Gerasimov]

[Excerpt] Let us go to Stockholm, where, as you know, problems of all-European security and cooperation are being discussed, for reaction to the forthcoming Geneva negotiations. Our correspondent Valentin Gubernatorov met some of the conference delegates:

[Gubernatorov] The words "the forthcoming negotiations in Geneva" are heard more and more often in speeches by delegates in working groups, at plenary sessions, and just in conversation during intermissions. What do the conference delegates think about the forthcoming dialogue?

[Begin O.A. Grinevskiy recording -- identified by caption] The participants at the Stockholm forum regard the start of the Geneva negotiations as an event of prime importance. The present dangerous international situation urgently demands that all states should take effective measures to prevent the arms race from overflowing into space and to halt it on earth. Averting the threat of war, and in particular of nuclear war, is the main thing to ensure that confidence and security are spread throughout the whole world, and, naturally, throughout our European Continent. [end recording]

Conditions for Success Viewed

LD102152 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Nikolay Agayants Commentary]

[Text] As we have already reported, very important Soviet-American talks, the subject of which will be the whole set of problems concerning the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments, both strategic and medium-range, and also the nonmilitarization of outer space, will begin in Geneva on Tuesday, 12 March. Here is our commentator Nikolay Agayants:

Millions of people of goodwill, no matter where they live or what views they hold, await this meeting with hope and trust in its success. It is awaited by all those for whom peace on our planet is something dear -- and not without reason, for the issues to be discussed and decided at the Geneva talks affect the vital interests of all mankind and open up opportunities for achieving effective accords on preventing the transfer of the arms race into the expanses of the universe and on ending it on earth.

I would recall that the Soviet Union and the United States have agreed that problems of space and nuclear armaments shall be examined and settled as an interrelated set of problems, which certainly is no simple matter, although one that is essential in the extreme. One ought to particularly stress the fact that the essential nature of this is dictated not by any subjective considerations, not by any calculations made on the basis of things as they are at this particular juncture, but by the strategic situation which has become a reality in the world. It is perfectly clear that the mind-bending arms race, which is continuing, has not ensured -- nor can it ensure -- anyone's security; and that the attempts by the U.S. Government to secure military superiority over the Soviet Union at any price merely aggravate the threat of nuclear disaster that hangs over mankind.

Yes, we want talks; but we are firmly convinced that they will only be successful when the accord concerning the subject and the purposes of them is sustained in every article and when the principle of the quality and the equal security of the sides is observed strictly and absolutely. We are in favor of honest and constructive talks. But we are categorically opposed to these being turned into a screen to cover up the arms race and war preparations including star wars preparations.

As has been noted, the Soviet delegation has been given precise instructions in this connection, and we have a right to expect that the Washington administration will also take every step to achieve a mutually acceptable agreement in Geneva. This task is an exceptionally complicated one, but it is utterly realistic and achievable. For this, goodwill is essential. For this, the rights and the legitimate interests of the security of both sides need to be respected and there must be no attempt to upset the strategic parity that has come into being. The Soviet Union is ready for talks of that kind. It is now up to the United States to say its word.

Confidence Expressed

LD091638 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1418 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Video talk from the "International Review" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] Last Tuesday, the U.S. Congress approved those named to the head the three groups of the U.S. delegation to the Geneva talks. They are: Kampelman who will, at the same time, be in overall charge of the U.S. delegation; former Senator Tower, and Glitman. Foreign observers regard with skepticism the choice of the U.S. delegation's members, considering that some of them are hawks and open opponents of any and all accords with the Soviet Union.

However, this is not even the point. In my view, the composition of the U.S. delegation is, as it were, a calling card for Washington's general foreign policy course. Even now, during these important days before the Geneva talks begin, Washington continues, unabated, to escalate the nuclear missile arms race. Just recently in Congress, President Reagan insisted on going ahead with the production of 21 more intercontinental MX missiles. As is known, each of these missiles is equipped with a warhead containing 10 independently targeted reentry vehicles [razdelyayuschchiyesya chasti individualnogo navedeniya] which are to be used for the first-strike nulcear attack.

The U.S. Administration announced the continuing manufacture of other types of arms for land-based forces, the U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Navy.

Work increasingly proceeds to implement the Pentagon's military and space program. All this contradicts the accord that was reached with regard to the goal of the Geneva negotiations and can entail the most serious consequences.

Attempts are being made in Washington to justify all this by the desire to create the best possible conditions for the talks in Geneva. This is so since, according to the perverted logic of some U.S. politicians, these "best possible" conditions can only be attained through force, only by having the United States attain military superiority.

Is it really necessary to state how mad, hopeless, and futile attempts of this kind are?

It is reported that on Monday, 11 March, the U.S. delegation to the Geneva talks will arrive in Brussels in its full complement -- in Brussels for a start, that is to say, in a city which houses NATO headquarters. This is so that NATO figures can become acquainted with the U.S. strategy at the talks. It is also reported that President Reagan will address a personal message to this very same meeting in Brussels.

According to Richard Burt, assistant U.S. secretary of state in charge of European affairs, this message, this presidential message, is to assuage the fears of the Europeans -- that is to say the West European NATO allies -- concerning Reagan's star wars plans. However, this Washington propaganda volley will hardly produce any great impression in Western Europe.

The U.S. Administration's space madness -- so writes the West German journal DER SPIEGEL -- has caused incredulity, confusion, and disorder in Europe. And so, comrades, the Geneva talks begin on 12 March. No one thinks they will be easy. On the contrary, very complex and difficult work faces our diplomats. We are, however, confident that accords in Geneva are not only necessary but also possible. Only one condition is necessary for this: to refrain from striving to upset the existing military-strategic balance in the world, to respect the rights and legitimate interests of both sides.

SDI SEEN AS U.S ATTEMPT TO GAIN SUPERIORITY

LD091813 Moscow TASS in English 1743 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 9 TASS -- The "star wars" project, no matter in what way Washington's masters of brainwashing might portray it, has nothing defensive about it whatsoever, Sergey Losev writes in an article, "White House's 'Star Ailment'", published in the 11th edition of OGONEK magazine.

"The establishment of a large-scale space-based anti-missile defence system," Losev writes, "is conceived by the Pentagon as an organized part of the plan to create a potential for making a first strike that would draw no retaliation."

The plan for establishing the "anti-missile shield", aggressive in its very essence, is in fact an attempt to gain decisive military superiority.

"Americans themselves do not believe in official Washington's version about the 'defensive character' of the 'star wars' programme," Losev stresses. The Office of Technology Assessment of U.S. Congress prepared an analytic report, implying that the large-scale anti-missile defence system with space-based elements is directed at [the] preparation [of] nuclear war by the United States against the Soviet Union."

It goes without saying that the Soviet Union cannot remain indifferent in face of these dangerous plans, the article says. Andrey Gromyko made a serious warning in his speech in Madrid on March 1st: If it is sought to turn outer space into a military launch-pad with the hope to dictate from it the will to other states, the Soviet Union has this answer: It will not be possible to implement the plans of achieving military superiority either on earth or in space. The hope to protect oneself from a retribution for aggression by an anti-missile acceptable arrangements so as to curb the arms race in all directions? This is precisely how the Soviet Union will be acting at the coming Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva."

"The USSR is leaving for Geneva with readiness to achieve concrete results on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security, honestly and strictly observing provisions of the January joint Soviet-American statement to the effect that the aim of the talks will be working out effective accords directed at preventing the arms race in outer space and terminating it on earth, limiting and reducing nuclear armaments and strengthening strategic stability. Against this background, the American Administration's attempts to take outside the framework of the talks, before they started, the central problems of preventing the militarization of outer space cannot be assesed otherwise but as steps hindering constructive results," the writer points out.

According to the Soviet Foreign Ministry, one cannot but be alarmed by the fact that on the eve of the Geneva talks, the American side resorts to unscrupulous stratagems with an apparent intention to vitiate the atmosphere around them from the very beginning and complicate a business-like consideration of problems that are to be resolved. It seems that it is precisely with this aim that the White House published a report advancing unsubstantiated and groundless accusations of the Soviet Union's alleged "violations" of its international commitments, Losev stresses.

For the sake of deluding public opinion, official Washington is seeking to camouflage the "star wars" programme by "highly ethical considerations" of all sorts. In effect, the present administration offered the military-industrial complex a new Klondike -- the race of space armaments that will cost the United States, according to the most moderate estimates, one trillion dollars, and will bring immense profits to arms-making concerns.

The United States needs the arms race not to defend its national security, which is threatened by no one, but to pursue a policy of state terrorism and international plunder, suppress national liberation movements, grossly interfere in internal affairs of sovereign states, and impose orders that suit Washington.

ROGERS CONCEPTS MAKE MBFR PROGRESS IMPOSSIBLE

PM081630 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Valentin Falin "Political Observer's Opinion": "Strong-Arm Diplomacy"]

[Text] Politics is like chess: Without mistakes there would be no losers. Nevertheless, according to current American popular belief, a political tie is by no means a success, while a tie benefiting the other side means a defeat altogether. So why settle for less, when Washington is experiencing an unprecedented surge of energy and is prepared to have its own way under any circumstances: by means of talks or without them, by formally taking note of other states' interests or by simply ignoring these interests.

U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz expresses this neoconservative philosophy of the administration in a formula according to which diplomacy and strength are two sides of the same coin. Diplomacy relies on strength and represents it. The greater the strength, the more effective U.S. diplomacy. Strength emerges as an extension of politics. It translates words into actions or at least the possibility of actions into violence or the possibility of violence, if we are to call a spade a spade.

Washington demands that we should revert to something we have been trying to avoid for the 40 years, since World War II. Strength and nothing but strength drives the wheels of history, and whoever is stronger is therefore in charge, if we were to believe G. Shultz, who is considered in the United States to be the man capable of "most intelligently" adapting R. Reagan's hard line to "the real world."

"Intelligently" in this instance means not provocatively, on the quiet, in a roundabout way, as opposed to the patent "hawks" roosting mainly in other departments.

But let's not abuse the "hawks" just for the sake of abuse. Following the President's shift from the single-track militarist route to the more complex alternative of moving to the accompaniment of lip service to arms control and even a nuclear arms ban, the "hawks" have also expanded their vocabulary. Why not keep up with fashion? Since the MX first-strike missile has been canonized as a "guardian of peace," there is, of course, no reason at all why the course of an arms race in space should not be described as an "extremely humane strategic defense initiative" or the mass preparations for global and local military adventures presented as a U.S. "contribution" to international security.

General B. Rogers, NATO supreme allied commander in Europe, is not alone in this. He is, most probably, just more eloquent then others, and this may be precisely why he was recently invited to Washington to enlighten the gentlement of the Senate who, in the Pentagon's view, are rather tight-fisted when it comes to reviewing requests for military expenditures.

According to B. Rogers, the North Atlantic bloc is "the most successful movement in defense of peace throughout history." The funds invested in it will continue to produce returns. The only things necessary are "an appropriate strategy, sufficient capability to implement it, and resolve to execute this strategy." The strategy, according to the general's assurances, does exist. It is founded on the first use of nuclear weapons by the bloc "for defense purposes" and on a combination of "a certainty of response" with "the uncertainty of the precise nature and scope of that response."

Let us note that, under the rules adopted by the North Atlantic alliance, "aggression" means not just an attack using armed forces but also any development of events that is "justifiably" perceived by the bloc members as a "direct" threat to their interests. A "response" may occur, in particular, in the event of attack on NATO aircraft "finding themselves" on a "defense" mission in the socialist countries' airspace. Strikes are not ruled out as part of retaliation for some kind of "terrorist acts." I am no longer talking about the involvement of the bloc's military potential, its combat forces and its airfields and other infrastructure facilities, in projects of so-called "horizontal escalation" envisaging the spread of military operations to any part of the world at the Americans' discretion, even if a conflict were to occur at the opposite end of the globe.

The "appropriate strategy" has been tested (theoretically) in the course of endless staff and troop exercise involving top-ranking officials from the relevant NATO states. So what is missing? The nuclear forces have been more or less in order since "the United States and the United Kingdom have embarked on programs to modernize their strategic forces," provided, according to the reservation made by Rogers, that these programs are "fully implemented." Things are not too bad as regards the "modernization of intermediate nuclear forces," a term by which Gen Rogers means the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Europe. But "NATO's major weakness" still rests with the conventional forces, as a result of which, if a non-nuclear conflict were to start, "the NATO political authorities would fairly quickly face the decision to authorize the release of theater nuclear weapons."

Anyone unwilling, the general went on, to "rely excessively on the first use of nuclear weapons at the initial stage of the war" must satisfy the requirement for non-nuclear rearmament of the bloc's armies. The "improvement" of conventional forces would, in his words, "permit a deliberate and determined decision by NATO political authorities to resort to nuclear weapons." It appears from the context of B. Rogers' statement that conditions for such a "deliberate and determined decision" do not presently exist. The presence of stronger forces would, furthermore, ensure the invulnerability of NATO's "nuclear delivery means and essential command and control systems until they are needed."

The supreme commander is "encouraged" by the decisions made by the bloc's members over the past year to expand the facilities for "reinforcement acceptance" and also to stockpile ammunition stocks and particularly the "long-term planning guideline for strike attack against the second echelon forces" of Warsaw Pact countries. Literally two lines further on, the general adds to the "second echelon" "maneuver groups," "third echelon," and "reserves" as additional targets for preemptive total strikes against Warsaw Pact forces. But since all these blanket strikes will be non-nuclear, there is nothing to worry about.

In order to implement the plans it will be necessary to ensure the proper "mix of cost- and mission-effective direct and indirect attack and standoff weapons systems for the follow-on force attack mission." The "existing chemical weapons capability" must be "modernized" and made ready for use. "Modernization of the U.S. special operations forces" will be needed, and also "enhancement of the potential for infiltration/exfiltration of agents" and so on. There are so many tasks and duties that there is no way of coping with them at the present ceiling of 346,400 [as published] U.S. servicemen in Europe, as imposed by Congress. B. Rogers attempted to offer proof for his request that this ceiling be rescinded. By building up its troop strength in Europe and pouring in cash for long-term expenditures the United States would encourage the other NATO countries to do the same. All this, of course, for the sake of more "lasting peace," "better security," and avoidance of "premature use" of U.S. and British "nuclear weapons."

So how is it possible, given such aims, to progress in the talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe? It is not possible. This is also why the previous Geneva talks collapsed. Progress is lacking at the Stockholm conference for the very same reason. The United States and NATO have altogether different concerns and different loyalties.

One more question comes to mind when studying B. Rogers' deliberations. It was noted in the U.S. Defense Department's 1 February 1983 report to Congress that the United States has no strategy for using its conventional forces in isolation from the use of nuclear forces. Other U.S. documents have made it known that all components of the nuclear capability, tactical, medium-range, and strategic, are subject to use within the framework of a unified comprehensive operations plan. So, the general could have been making fools of the senators, luring them with non-nuclear bait. On the other hand, there could have been an unofficial conspiratorial agreement to deceive the public by offering assurances that the Americans are engaged, both in space and on earth, in rendering nuclear weapons "harmless" and that they are seriously intent on this.

I don't know for sure what impression B. Rogers made on the senators with their acute sense for electoral success. Judging by the 6 March vote in the Senate Budget Committee, it was by no means what he expected. An 18 to 4 majority of senators voted to cut the administration's military expenditure in the next 3 years by 79 billion dollars.

We can imagine that the administration will not give up that easily. I noted earlier that Gen B. Rogers is one of many. He is just one of the legion of those who are pressing for strength with whose help the State Department hopes to give a "new gloss" to its diplomacy.

REAGAN SAYS MX STRENGTHENS U.S. POSITION AT TALKS

LD100105 Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] In a broadcast speech on Saturday [9 March] President Reagan put forward a false argument saying that the development of the new first-strike intercontinental MX missiles would give the United States a stronger position at the talks in Geneva.

President Reagan is conducting a campaign of pressure on Congress seeking endorsement of appropriations for the MX missiles. In his reply to the President, Democratic Senator Gary Hart said the President's logic contradicted common sense. Senator Hart said he saw no need for the new missiles now that the talks in Geneva were opening.

REAGAN SAID TO USE TALKS FOR ARMS BUILDUP

LD102126 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1458 GMT 10 Mar 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Gennadiy Gerasimov]

[Text] A great many good wishes for the Geneva negotiations have been expressed. In total, they represent virtually a global common denominator reflecting the aspiration of peoples and governments for peace. They also reflect the hope that is placed in diplomacy.

The matter appears somewhat differently in Washington, however, and one can probably risk making a generalization to the effect that Americans are technocrats. It has become almost a national belief among them to consider that all problems can be solved by technology: all that is needed is to organize a so-called brainstorm to carve out the necessary ideas, and then to mobilize rapidly the resources to implement these ideas. Reagan made use of this belief when he called upon U.S. scientists to find a defense against missiles. Reagan is trading on hope. And the average American is ready to believe that scientists will seek and indeed find protection against the nuclear threat.

Thus, the United States is seeking a military-technological solution to the problem of national security. In so doing, this search increases, rather than reduces, the threat to peace, since action evokes counteraction and results in the so-called snowball effect. The fact is that there is no purely military-technological solution to the problem of maintaining peace in the nuclear age and of ensuring security.

On the other hand, however, there is the opporutnity of a diplomatic, or more precisely a political solution, where, of course, the due goodwill of the sides involved exists. However, on the eve of the negotiations, President Reagan made a statement. He cited three conditions for their success. The first condition was the realization of a program of strategic modernization, and in particular the construction of 100 MX missiles. In about 10 days' time there will be a vote in Congress on allocations for construction of a new batch -- 21 -- of such missiles. The President puts forward the argument that a signal must be given to the Russians and American determination must be demonstrated. In other words, negotiations from a position of strength.

The second condition is NATO's determination to continue missile deployment in Europe. And this is once again concern for a position of strength. The third condition is the Soviet Union's recognition of the consistency of U.S. goals. This condition is not quite understandable. For the moment, Washington's goal, deriving from the first two conditions, is to increase armaments. Why? In order to cut them subsequently? Or in order subsequently to lay down dictates?

Even negotiations on arms reductions are themselves used to step up armaments, on the pretext that otherwise the Soviet side will have no incentive to conduct negotiations.

It should, incidentally, be added that a telling blow was dealt to this absurd logic last week. The Senate Budget Committee, opposed the growth of military expenditure, which means a cut of $79 billion over 3 years from the sum sought by the government.

There are also a lot of difficulties with the allies who have to be persuaded of American wisdom in regard to star wars. Last week Reagan had to convince Italian Prime Minister Craxi, who was visiting Washington, of this. Or, this is what the London TIMES newspaper writes about all this: Reagan's strategic initiative will perhaps not solve the problem of U.S. security; but it has already created problems for the Canadian Government.

SOVIET, U.S. DELEGATES SPEAK AT ARMS FORUM

PM081830 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Concern for the Destiny of Peace"]

[Text] Tutzing (Bavaria), 6 Mar -- An international scientific colloquium devoted to question of safeguarding peace, disarmament, and arms control is continuing its work here. It is attended by politicians and public figures, parliamentarians, scientists, and publicists from the FRG, the Soviet Union, the United States, the GDR and a number of other countries.

The colloquium participants and observers listened with great interest to the main report, delivered by Soviet delegation leader R.I. Kosolapov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the USSR Parliamentary Group Committee, and chief editor of the journal KOMMUNIST. He expounded the Soviet Union's principled position on topical questions of safeguarding lasting peace, halting the arms race on earth, and preventing it from spreading to space.

Talking about the USSR's position in the light of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments, which begin in Geneva on 12 March, the Soviet representative stressed that the objective conditions now exist for serious and fruitful consideration at the talks of problems of preventing the arms race in near-earth space and stopping it on earth -- as an interconnected whole, moreover, since it is now clear that neither problem can be successfully solved in isolation from the other. The Soviet Union is approaching these talks with the United States realistically, not turning a blind eye to the considerable difficulties that exist but, at the same time, believing that they can be overcome given goodwill on both sides, a readiness to make reasonable compromises, and an awareness of the need to strictly observe the principle of equality and identical security.

The speaker highlighted the questions of the European peoples' joint responsibility in the matter of averting the heightened threat of nuclear war and warned of the danger of an uncritical perception of U.S. hegemonist doctrines.

Archbishop Pitirim, representing the Russian Orthodox Church, noted in his speech that, in the opinion of the broadest religious circles, nuclear war can never be justified in any circumstances and is the greatest danger to the peoples. The common danger of annihilation should increase awareness of the common destiny of all mankind.

U.S. delegation leader and U.S. State Department spokesman William Luers reiterated the Washington administration's well-known postulates on the prospects of relations between East and West. Formally advocating the development of these relations, he spent a lot of time trying to convince his audience of Washington's "love of peace," gave a distorted picture of the causes of the current deterioration of the international situation, and plugged the hackneyed thesis of the "threat from the East." The U.S. representative devoted considerable attention to extolling Reagan's "star wars" plans.

'OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE' VIEWS GENEVA ARMS TALKS

LD102050 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 10 Mar 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Radomir Georgiyevich Bogdanov, deputy director of the USA and Canada Institute; Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, CPSU Central Committee consultant and political observer; and Vladimir Yakovlevich Tsvetov, central television and All-Union Radio political observer]

[Text] [Tsvetov] Hello there, comrades. The eyes of the entire world are focused on Geneva where the Soviet-American talks will start on 12 March with regard to preventing the militarization of space and halting the nuclear arms race on earth. Although two countries are participating in the talks -- the Soviet Union and the United States -- the problems they will be discussing apply to all countries, all peoples. In reality, the nuclear arms race launched by world imperialism's militarist circles concerns everyone throughout the world, since it influences the political, economic, and spiritual life of the people, making them alarmed for their future. The outcome of the Geneva talks will determine by and large, whether the arms race will decline or be intensified even further. Plans are being conceived in the United States to shift the arms race to space, which is fraught with increasing the danger of a nuclear war and, therefore, with a growing threat for humanity's very existence. The outcome of the Geneva talks depends to a considerable extent whether this threat is going to be removed or will assume an even larger scale. That is why now everyone in the world is anxious to see the outcome of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva.

[Shishlin] Herein lies the most important question now: not only how the talks will proceed, which obviously is the main question, but what the sides have come with on the eve of these talks.

[Bogdanov] Nikolay Vladimirovich, you are posing a very essential, and I will even say, key question. All of us, and certainly our radio listeners, have witnessed during the past few months the way the American Administration at its highest level, has been preoccupied with creating an atmosphere of hopelessness around the talks. The notion was expressed quite unambiguously in a whole series of public statements by the most senior American leaders directly linked with the conduct of negotiations that things are altogether hopeless. If you add to that the publication of the so-called report on so-called breaches by the Soviet Union of all disarmament agreements, a report that will be familiar to you and is an utterly mendacious document containing nothing to support its assertions and for which there are no grounds for considering it the truth, then you may say and even ask why all this was done on the eve of talks to which, as you said, the eyes of the whole world are riveted; the interests of the whole world are now focused on the date 12 March 1985.

[Shishlin] Yes, Radomir Georgiyevich. That report apart, one cannot, of course, fail to lose sight of the American Administration's actions to whip up the arms race. Not a single military program has been halted and what is more, these program are being expanded. They are currently striving to push through allocations for the production of 21 MX missiles and with the same persistence are striving to improve the other components of their strategic triad. This is not to mention the so-called star wars plans, known by the term strategic defense initiative, which, of course, are fraught with the risk of the most serious destabilization of the entire military-strategic situation.

[Tsvetov] Without going into the program's technical military details, one can say with complete certainty that although the initiative is called defensive, it is in reality offensive. First, this is because the planned space weapons can be directed not only against missiles and satellites, but also against targets on the ground, in the air, and on water. In other words, the purpose of that system is to deal a nuclear first strike. Second, the military space systems that the Pentagon is planning are intended to prevent a retaliatory Soviet nuclear strike since the notion is that they will make it possible to destroy warheads a mere 5 or 6 minutes after launch.

[Boadanov] I would like to return to the beginning of our discussion before continuing with the so-called strategic defense initiative. A quite paradoxical situation is taking shape, the like of which the history of human reason has probably never seen before.

The arms race is escalating on the eve of talks that are of key importance for the fate of all mankind. Logic only suggests, as Nikolay Vladimirovich says, that on the contrary, it is necessary to create an appropriate atmosphere. You see, one must not forget that these talks, that the particular feature of these talks, is that they are beginning after a period of over 4 years during which the present American Administration has been persistently destroying all bases for Soviet-American relations. It would appear, as logic suggests, that an appropriate atmosphere is needed and second, if you like, it also signals that the other side seriously intends to work in this direction. You, Nikolay Vladimirovich, rightly noted that what is involved is not reduction, no; rather on the eve of the talks as it turns out, what is involved is that of an increase and escalation of the arms race. Under what pretext is all this being done? What is the argument that the administration is putting forward, twisting the arm of both the House of Representatives and Senate? It is in essence: The more money received for the arms race the more pliable the Soviet Union will be at the negotiation table. We will put more pressure on them and they will make concessions, is how their reasoning runs. Here, in this connection, it is certainly reasonable to pose another question. Imagine for a moment that the Soviet side would indeed act in such a way and would approach 12 March along such a path. What chance would then be left for negotiations? Here, I believe, it would be quite logical to ask: What has the Soviet side done on the eve of these talks?

[Shishlin] Radomir Georgiyevich, I would like to add more about the United States' activity. Although, it may appear that the connection here is not too close, I believe it exists. Indeed, on the eve of the talks it is necessary to take care about the creation of the appropriate psychological and political atmosphere, to show a definite restraint. However as it transpires, we see absolutely no restraint from the American side as far as the conflict situation and crisis situations are concerned: There is the piratical policy towards Nicaragua, it cannot be termed anything else; the activity of the United States in southern Africa; the direct support of Israel's expansionist policy; and the United States' activity in connection with the situation in Afghanistan. Naturally the activities of the United States in all these crisis-ridden situations can only cast a dark shadow over Soviet-American relations and make the general state of these relations even bleaker on the eve of the Geneva talks. I will put it in this way: The United States has made fairly considerable efforts in order for the talks to begin with difficulties.

[Tsvetov] In this situation, the Soviet Union has put forward a quite precise, concrete, and constructive position with regard to the talks. It was expressed, let me remind our listeners, in Comrade Chernenko's speech on 22 February. I would like to cite some of Konstantin Ustinovich's words. He said: We are not striving to achieve any type of one-sided advantage over the United States or NATO countries, or military superiority over them. Comrade Chernenko then underlined: We want a cessation, not a continuation of the arms race.

He concluded by saying: We want a true reduction in the accumlated arms, the destruction of a considerable portion of them to begin with, and not the creation of further new offensive or defensive weapons systems in either space or on the earth.

[Bogdanov] Yes, this is a very clear-cut statement, which in essence sets the tone, atmosphere, and basis for the achievement of some type of real result at the Geneva talks. I believe Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's statement that we are not striving for military superiority is of special importance. That is the key question. If we turn back to the history of Soviet-American relations over the last 4 years we can see that the Reagan administration's quite clear policy directed towards the attainment of military superiority was what poisoned the atmosphere, and made our relations tense and quite unacceptable for the Soviet side. I would like to add to what Vladimir Yakovlevich said with another important consideration. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo decision that has been published examined a broad circle of questions. It examined and confirmed the guidelines for the Soviet delegation that is starting talks in Geneva. It appears to me that one circumstance must be singled out in particular: specifically, that the Soviet delegation has been instructed to conduct the talks energetically and constructively. I believe that these are also key concepts. What does it mean energetically? We can observe an obvious American desire to drag out the talks, to drag them out for a year, or 2 or 3. The formulation "energetically" means that the Soviet side will not allow the talks to be dragged out. This is too serious a question and too much is at stake. The second part of the formulation, "constructively," what does "constructively" mean? This means that the Soviet side is coming with proposals, and as we consider them, acceptable ones, based on one very simple truth -- both sides' equality and equal security.

[Tsvetov] The third point of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo guidelines for our delegation is that the questions of nuclear and space weapons must be examined and tackled as mutually interlinked.

Esteemed listeners, in your letters, you very often dwell on this principle of the talks -- that questions dealing with nuclear and space armaments must be tackled on a mutually related basis.

[Shishlin] Many people pose the question in an even different way. If it proves possible to work out an accord on certain groups of armaments, why should this accord not be implemented without waiting for an accord in other areas? However, the very formula that stipulates that these issues must be discussed on a mutually related basis reflects the military and political reality in which we live. For example, with regard to strategic armaments and intermediate-range nuclear armaments, leaving space armaments to one side, as far as the Soviet Union is concerned intermediate-range nuclear armaments -- the Pershing II's and cruise missiles -- are weapons of a strategic nature. Thus, it is quite natural that we cannot divorce these armaments deployed by the Americans in Western Europe from the problem of strategic armaments. This applies in even greater measure to the questions of the militarization of space. If space is militarized, if the American Administration does not renounce its star wars plans and this notorious strategic defense initiative, what good is an accord on strategic armaments, or intermediate-range strategic weapons? Thus, this problems of interrelatedness is essentially one of the key ones as far as the approach to the talks is concerned. That is why this issue was discussed in Geneva as far back as January at Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's meeting with Shultz and why this very point was registered in the joint Soviet-American accord as the common understanding of the approach to this problem.

[Tsvetov] There is another point to which I believe we must draw attention. We all remember the way in which the American military tried to provide justifications for the nuclear arms race after the Second World War. The assertion was made that nuclear weapons would supposedly make large armies unnecessary which would consequently automatically bring disarmament in the sphere of conventional weapons, and vast sums would be saved.

What happened in reality? The costly arms race spread to the sphere of nuclear weapons, and far from declining, the arms race increased ever further in the conventional weapons sphere. The same thing will happen now. The militarization of space, which will begin to swallow colossal material and human resources, will not halt the nuclear arms race on earth but, on the contrary, make the race even more irrepressible and uncontrollable.

[Bogdanov] Please note that from the very outset, ever since Reagan's March 1983 speech, when it was declared publicly for the first time that the United States was entering the area of space wars, the talk was of a so-called defense initiative. The talk was that, allegedly, somewhere at the end of that long road flickered the greatest dream -- the realization of the greatest dream -- that humanity will dispense with nuclear weapons altogether. All American Administrations during the 30 postwar years have said without the slightest inhibition that nuclear weapons were strike weapons, offensive weapons that will bring all of America's enemies to their knees. Then, suddenly, they come up with defense. What is going on? I want to draw your attention to the following point. At the end of this February, the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, a paper you are very familiar with, published an interesting article analyzing the question as to why that administration is so persistently talking of a defense initiative. The point is that in public opinion in America itself -- as indeed throughout the world -- there has been such a growth in revulsion for nuclear weapons as a means of destruction that the administration has been compelled to "sell," to use the American term, to "sell" this new weapons system under the guise, or packaging, of defensive weapons.

There is something else I would like to say. In America, as well as in some other countries, very authoritative groups of scientists have now been set up to study the prospects of this strategic defense. There are two groups of scientists. One serves the administration's interests, the interests of the military-industrial complex, and endeavors to prove by every manner of truth and untruth, including mathematics, the laws of physics, and so on, that the strategic defense initiative is possible.

The second group of scientists, which does not belong to those who govern America today and is not connected with the military-industrial complex, is proving the opposite; namely, that the strategic initiative is condemned to failure from the outset for a whole number of reasons. If we were to weigh the authority of the people in the groups supporting the administration and the military-industrial complex, and the authority of those who belong to the second camp, you would notice an interesting phenomenon. In the second camp, which is against the so-called defense initiative, without exaggeration, the best scientific minds and, incidentally, people who have been making nuclear weapons and creating strategic concepts for the use of these nuclear weapons are concentrated. They have come to the conclusion that it is impossible: impossible to shield the American towns and population from nuclear retributive strikes, retaliatory strikes. There are no such prospects.

In actual fact they are not even thinking about that. It is a question of a so-called space point defense [tochechnaya kosmicheskaya oborona] -- to shield the missiles -- the American missiles, and the control centers, in order to deliver strikes against the Soviet Union with impunity and be able to conduct a nuclear war against the Soviet Union.

[Tsvetov] THE NEW YORK TIMES openly writes with regard to this: At best, star wars amounts to a plan for defending ground-based missiles rather than people. Possibly, although this is not admitted, it is a plan to put America in a position where it can threaten a sudden attack and reap the fruits of nuclear blackmail.

[Shishlin] This has the following logic. Well, Country A -- let us assume the point of view that the realization of these star wars plans is possible -- and so, Country A opens an umbrella over its own territory and over its allies' territories to shield from a retributive strike. What does Country B, which knows that work to create space armaments systems is being conducted, do in this case? Country B in that case naturally will be striving to procure a sharper sword, an all-piercing sword. In turn Country B is not going to lose time in conducting analogous research to prevent upsetting the military-strategic parity. The result, as Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko said on more than one occasion, is an eruption of a new arms race, a launch of an arms race, moreover, in every direction and involving any class of armaments.

[Bogdanov] Here I would like to make an observation. We are again coming across -- and how many times has it already happened in the history of Soviet-American relations -- we are coming across a kind of technological, I would say arrogance on the American side, with, I would say, its stubborn belief that American technology is so superior to everything else in the world that they can stay ahead of all opponents for a protracted period. The Soviet Union is seen as the leading opponent.

How many times has the United States already made a major miscalculation by perceiving our sincere interest in halting the arms race as a sign of weakness and thereby forcing new programs. There are some who presently treat the Soviet call for the nonmilitarization of space in a similar way. I believe it is high time for the United States to understand that the USSR comes out so keenly against spreading the arms race into space not because it will be unable to respond to Washington's plans. If we are forced to -- there are no secrets about this -- if we are forced to, we, as more than once in the past, will do everything necessary to protect our security and, of course, the security of our allies.

[Tsvetov] Everyone realizes that the negotiations will be complex and that time is needed to achieve solutions acceptable to both sides. However, the negotiations will not be conducted in a vacuum but in definite conditions of international life. Undoubtedly, the negotiating process will be greatly facilitated if the United States were to follow the example of the Soviet Union which is trying to ease the international situation through practical measures. I am thinking of the following: If the United States were to support the Soviet proposal to agree on norms of mutual relations between nuclear powers, and if the United States, like the Soviet Union, were to adopt a pledge not to use nuclear weapons first, this would have a beneficial effect upon the course of the forthcoming negotiations.

The course of the negotiations can also be positively affected by the positions of those countries not meeting in Geneva. As far as the socialist countries are concerned, they consistently defend the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence. The Soviet Union's constructive position, both prior to the Geneva talks and in their course, has been and will be a reflection of the ideas and feelings of all the countries of the socialist camp.

On the other hand, the United States will not be able to conduct the negotiations fully ignoring the views of its allies on the issues under consideration. Here the role of countries such as Britain, the FRG, France, and Italy may become highly important if, of course, they desire to make a worthy contribution to the cause of preventing nuclear war.

In connection with this, my attention was drawn by the following appeal by the West German Communists' newspaper UNSERE ZEIT to the FRG Government. There is a possibility at present to prevent an arms race in space, the paper said. We demand that the Federal Government reject the star wars plans and on no account take part in its realization.

The Federal Government should, the newspaper appealed, make a constructive contribution to creating a beneficial atmosphere for the Soviet-American talks in Geneva.

[Shishlin] Here of course, we can say that both inside and outside Europe both political circles and the public presently show a burning interest that the Soviet-American dialogue assume a constructive nature and indeed energetic nature. Of course, if speaking of the ruling circles, the spread of positions is quite large.

If we take the position of the West German leaders, and one of the closest to them is perhaps the British position, they are rather inclined to support the so-called strategic defense initiative, although they provide certain reasoning that what is meant is only scientific research and a developmental work stage. If we attempt to look more closely at the Italian and French positions, we can notice certain nuances after all. Although, Craxi visited the United States quite recently, and it is depicted in such a way to make us believe that some sort of mutual understanding at least has been achieved there, I still believe it safe to conclude that the Italians and the present Italian Government treat these space militarization plans with a certain reserve. The French also have an absolutely definite reserve about it. I need not mention the neutral European countries which are extremely cool and treat all those American fancies in a negative way. All in all, the common denominator for the West European position is the fact that these plans as they are cause great alarm and a certain counteractive force. That is why I tend to attach great importance to those diplomatic contacts now being developed between both the Soviet Union and West European states, and between other socialist countries and our West European neighbors. With regard to world public as a whole and numerous sober-thinking political circles, they are now acting as a factor for a certain pressure on the American position to urge them to strive for an accord since the Soviet Union is truly ready to reach an agreement and is ready to look for a compromise taking into account to the same degree the security interests of the Soviet Union and our friends and allies. The Soviet Union is equally prepared to consider the security interests of the United States and its West European partners.

[Bogdanov] Naturally, analysis of what the United States has recently done does not allow for very optimistic conclusion and I believe we did the correct thing informing our radio listeners about the complexities, and about those stumbling blocks that the United States has placed on the path of the Geneva talks. Does that mean the talks are irrevocably doomed? Certainly not. Everything we have said means that the struggle is necessary. Relaxation at the mere thought that the talks are to begin is unacceptable. We can say with pride that on the eve of these most important talks the Soviet side has done its utmost to create an appropriate atmosphere.

[Tsvetov] Thus, to summarize I want to emphasize that the Soviet Union is heading for Geneva, is going for talks with the conviction that an accord on the problems to be discussed is badly needed, since life on earth will become even more dangerous without one. The Soviet Union is going to the talks convinced that an accord is possible if the American side will respect the Soviet Union's rights and legitimate interests in preserving its security and will not attempt to break the existing balance of forces. This confidence is proof of the Soviet foreign policy's realistic nature and the Soviet Union's lofty feeling of responsibility for peace for the whole humanity. This is proof of our country's goodwill. We will now say good-bye to you, dear listeners. Best wishes to you.

IZVESTIYA ARTICLE ANALYZES NONALIGNED MOVEMENT

PM081114 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Ye. Rumyantsev article: "Active Force of Present Day; On the 2d Anniversary of the Delhi Conference"]

[Text] March 7 1983 -- Delhi -- Vigyan Bhavan, the Palace of Science, is decked with the flags of many countries. It is the opening of the seventh conference of the heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries. Indira Gandhi is on the platform.

Time worthily illuminates more brightly and fully the figure of the Indian people's outstanding daughter who led the Nonaligned Movement. I. Gandhi's selfless efforts aimed at strengthening peace and security and eliminating seats of tension and conflicts earned the respect of the progressive world public. Under her leadership the authority and influence of the Nonaligned Movement was strengthened even further.

We think about this now on the second anniversary of the Delhi forum. The Seventh Nonaligned Conference met at a time of sharp galvanization of the forces pushing the world toward nuclear catastrophe. The burden of the arms race imposed by imperialism had become even heavier for the developing states.

Before and during the Delhi conference the West made attempts to divide the united front of the nonaligned states, to remove the movement from the mainstream of events, and to blunt its anti-imperialist thrust. They did not succeed. Indira Gandhi had every reason to say at the concluding meeting with journalists: "The conference was a success and the calculations of those who foretold the downfall of the Nonaligned Movement were not justified."

Indeed, the conference was a success. It showed that the movement has assumed a global nature. Its participants provided a clear answer to the main question of the present day. "In the contemporary world there is no alternative to the policy of peaceful coexistence, detente, and cooperation among states," the conference political declaration, adopted in Delhi on behalf of 100 countries with a population of 1.5 billion people, stated. It stressed that "development, independence, disarmament, and peace are closely linked." The "Delhi appeal", calling for an end to the slide toward nuclear conflict, was also adopted.

The course of the seventh conference and its results demonstrated very clearly the maturity of the movement. Nonalignment can be neither neutral nor equidistant [ravnoudalennyy] in questions of war and peace. It is in the common camp of progressive and peace-loving forces. This concept of the interconnection between the problems of peace, disarmament, and development brings the nonaligned and socialist countries objectively close together. They are united primarily on the main issue, which is that there is no more important task today than to save the planet from the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

Virtually all the nonaligned states' initiatives in favor of peace, disarmament, and the establishment of just international economic relations have been supported by the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, both in the United Nations and at other international forums.

A vitally important question for the developing countries is the struggle for genuine decolonialization and economic independence. In the 30 years since the collapse of the colonial system, industrially developed capitalist countries exercising the rights of "partners" have extorted more real resources from the young states than the former mother countries obtained in the preceding 3 centuries. The developing states' debts to capitalist powers are growing rapidly. They have reached the astronomical figure of $1 trillion.

A decade and a half ago, in Lusaka, the Nonaligned Movement countries put forward a demand to establish a new international economic order, after which the UN General Assembly session adopted a corresponding declaration and action program on this question. However, the West (the "North" as it is called in the developing world) is in no hurry to begin a serious discussion on equitable and just economic relations.

The time that has elapsed since the Delhi conference has delineated even more sharply the watershed that runs between the two main political courses -- socialism and imperialism.

The stepping up of tension is not a spontaneous process. Its source is the increased aggressive policy of imperialism, which would like to dictate its own will to other peoples. The "crusade" declared by the imperialists -- led by the United States -- against the USSR and world socialism is aimed against all the world's progressive forces. Is this not attested to by the United States' aggression against nonaligned Grenada and Lebanon, its military interference in Central America, blackmail vis-a-vis UNESCO and UNCTAD, and so forth?

Imperialism's strategic concept found expression in the "program of democracy and public diplomacy" adopted by Washington and aimed primarily against the developing countries. To split the movement's unity and remove it from the mainstream for the sake of implementing its own mercenary plans -- this is imperialism's line, which was revealed particularly acutely following the Delhi forum. Without concealing its disappointment at its results, the West stepped up pressure on India in an attempt to weaken one of the connecting links in the nonaligned ranks.

However, India is fulfilling the obligations placed upon it with honor and understanding of its responsibility. This is evidenced, in particular, by the Delhi declaration of six countries recently adopted under the leadership of the movement's new chairman -- R. Gandhi. It affirms their allegiance to the ideals of nonalignment and their determination to implement the line outlined by the Delhi forum and continue the course of J. Nehru and I. Gandhi.

The socialist community and the Nonaligned Movement are united by the need to rebuff imperialism's intrigues and halve the arms race, which is a particularly heavy burden on the developing countries' peoples. Two-thirds of the planet's population still live in poverty, while every minute the arms race ogre devours $1.5 million. It is calculated, for example, that the cost of 1 nuclear bomber is more than the combined annual national income of 53 developing countries.

An arms race in space, which Washington is now advocating strenuously, would require even vaster sums. It is also fraught with the danger of tremendous destabilizing consequences, since it jeopardizes a whole range of agreements on arms limitation and disarmament. The people do not believe in the "defensive" nature of "star wars" proclaimed by Washington.

Responding to this assertion, Nonaligned Movement Chairman Rajiv Gandhi said: "We have heard such arguments before, when submarines carrying nuclear warheads, cruise missiles, and other very up-to-date types of weapons were created. However, every time this has only led to an escalation of the arms race and an increase in the threat of war. The only true way toward security lies in disarmament and the liquidation of nuclear and other weapons."

This is why the agreement between the USSR and the United States to begin new talks on the range of questions concerning space and nuclear weapons as an interconnected package, was perceived with such hope in the world. As the recent Delhi declaration by the leaders of six countries stressed, the "agenda and the results of these talks are of concern to all countries and all peoples."

TRUD HITS ILO'S 'PASSIVITY' TO SOCIAL PROBLEMS

PM081829 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian on 7 March carries on page 3 a 1,800-word article entitled "Urgent Problems" by special correspondent B. Shulyukin. The article, datelined Geneva, March, assesses the results of the ILO Administrative Council's 229th session. It runs through the session's agenda, dwelling on the ILO's alleged failure to deal with the problem of worldwide unemployment, and reports that: "A number of delegates at the session firmly stated that working people cannot accept the ILO's passivity in its approach to important social problems." It then continues:

"The passivity in the question of unemployment is only one example typifying the unsatisfactory situation existing in the ILO. It is experiencing a serious crisis, as was pointed out by the Soviet representative at the session, L.A. Kostin, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems. The essence of the crisis lies in the ILO's ignoring questions affecting working people's fundamental interests.

"The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are seeking to ensure that the ILO increases the effectiveness of its work and focuses its activity on major problems of vital interest to working people. However, ignoring the socialist countries' proposals and viewpoints has become a kind of standard behavior for a whole series of ILO bodies and the leadership of its secretariat. The developing states' interests are also not taken properly into account.

"The same thing happened during the preparation of the 1985-1987 draft budget. Specific proposals aimed at improving the ILO's activity in fulfilling its prescribed tasks received no satisfactory reflection at all.

"Interference in the sovereign affairs of socialist states has become entrenched in ILO activity and is assuming increasing dimensions. The mechanism for monitoring the application of the ILO's conventions has become an instrument for such interference as a result of its political bias and the undemocratic composition of its organs. There has long been an urgent need to reform the monitoring mechanism based on the universally recognized principles of international cooperation.

"The organization's exploitation for improper purposes has aggravated the crisis in the ILO. The feasibility of continuing normal cooperation among states with different sociopolitical systems and its universality have been brought into question. Protesting against interference in its internal affairs, Poland announced its withdrawal from the organization. For a number of reasons Vietnam stopped participating in the ILO even earlier."

The article then cites complaints heard by the ILO of breaches of trade union and workers' rights by Western countries. With regard to technical assistance for the developing countries, the article alleges that "a tendency to involve the ILO more actively in preparing the ground for profitable activity by private capital in the developing countries is increasingly apparent." It says that "the ILO should raise its voice in defense of peace and against the arms race."

It also reports that: "The socialist countries in their joint statement noted that they will not support the ILO program and budget for 1986-1987 and will be forced to reexamine their attitude to financing certain areas of ILO activity if their constructive proposals are not taken appropriately into account." It concludes by saying that: "Only a political will and sincere desire to improve the situation in the ILO can break the deadlock. This is the goal of the socialist countries and the progressive forces represented in the organization."

FURTHER ON SHCHERBITSKIY, DELEGATION U.S. VISIT

Shcherbitskiy Smithsonian Speech

LD082203 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Washington, 8 Mar (TASS) -- The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, headed by Vladimir Shcherbitskiy, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first seceretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, visited the Smithsonian Institute, the well-known research center, where it met with representatives of American scientific and business circles.

Vladimir Shcherbitskiy gave a speech to the gathering.

Our visit to your country is taking place at a difficult period, the head of the Soviet delegation stated. There is presently a clearly excessive surplus of deadly weapons in the world, and, regrettably, these weapons are growing in number. Moreover, there is a deficit of that mutual trust that is so essential in building a peaceful life for present and future generations.

Those of us who are here represent two social and economic systems, two worlds, if you like; two ways of life. However circumstances may evolve one cannot get away from the evident truth that we live and must live on the same planet, we must coexist and coexist peacefully.

Your country is somewhat over 200 years old. The state our delegation represents is considerably younger. Our contemporary biography began 67 years ago as a result of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Our revolution was not to everyone's liking. It seems that the United States was the last major country in the capitalist world to recognize us, as late as 1933. I would note that this was a time when our first 5-Year Plan had just been completed. The Soviet land was reaching what were at the time the foremost boundaries of industrial and scientific-technical progress. Right on the eve of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the United States, Dneproges was brought into operation in the Ukraine; it was at the time one of the biggest hydroelectric power stations in the Soviet Union, in the whole of Europe. By the way, American consultants were involved in its construction. Their head, H.L. Cooper, and five other specialists were awarded Soviet Orders. By 1941, the time of the treacherous attack on the Soviet Union by fascist Germany, our country was the European leader in terms of the level of industrial production.

Why do we recall these facts that belong to history, perhaps not so remote, but still history; facts that are very important and dear to my compatriots?

In my view, they reveal the opportunities of socialism, a new social system. This is a peace-loving system. We consider peaceful coexistence of states with different social and economic systems to be a decisive condition of reliable security of the peoples.

The United States has doubtless achieved much in many spheres. But on the other hand, throughout American history no bombs have exploded on your soil. You don't know what occupation means. Only in August, 1945, two Nazi warships made their appearance in the vicinity of Boston: These ships had been captured and were being escorted by American vessels.

We had it all in a different way. A large part of the history of the USSR, of all our efforts, was spent in repelling foreign aggressions and rebuilding what was destroyed.

Forty years ago fascism was defeated and World War II, in which we were allies, ended.

The Soviet Union suffered enormous losses as a result of the war. At that time the Ukraine lay in ruins. One out of every six inhabitants perished in our republic. Kiev, the capital of the Ukraine, alone, lost some 300,000 people; this is almost equal to United States losses in the World War II. Overall, 20 million Soviet people perished in the years of the war against fascism.

Western forecasters predicted after the war that the Soviet Union would need long decades to heal the wounds dealt by the war. However, by 1950 we had surpassed the prewar level of economic development. In 1957 the USSR opened the space age, the era of the peaceful use of space.

Today our country accounts for one-fifth of the world's industrial production. I will add that at present the Ukraine alone achieves four times the industrial production of the whole of the Soviet Union on the eve of the war. Naturally the Ukrainian people were only able to achieve this thanks to the joint efforts of all the fraternal peoples of our country and to the possibility of living in peace.

Spheres of industry such as atomic machine building, radio electronics, and computer technology are developing at rapid rates in the USSR. Tangible progress is apparent in the traditional branches of the metallurgical and oil-and-gas-recovery industries and in others.

It was not so long ago that many U.S. firms readily turned to the experience of Soviet industry and science. It is not our fault that the volume of trade and economic ties between our two countries has sharply decreased these past years.

In the meantime, Soviet economy and science, are today capable of realizing unique undertakings. The Western Siberia - Western Europe gas pipeline is already working and delivering Siberian gas to our partners. The Baykal-Amur Mainline Railway almost 3.5 km long, has been in operation since last year.

During the past 5 years four-fifths of our national income has been directed toward financing the national economy and sociocultural measures. I would like you to know that in the USSR there are no homeless, no hungry people, and no unemployed. Not so long ago the Soviet press carried an interview with the last unemployed person to be registered by the last labor exchange; this happened at the beginning of the 1930's.

When we speak of the principle of social justice that lies at the basis of socialism we also have in mind that the USSR is a state of more than 100 equal nationalties. The cohesion of the nations united in the USSR was one of the major factors in the battle with German fascism.

Our national republics have all the conditions for the development of their economy, science, and culture. Their productive forces are multiplied to a great extent by the fact that they make up the country's single highly developed national economic organism. Vast regions of the Soviet Union, which in the past were backward outlying areas with a completely illiterate population, are today ahead of many developed capitalist states in terms of the number of students, scientific workers, and doctors. Works of foreign literature, including American literature, are being published in dozens of languages of the peoples of our country, including of those nationalities that before the revolution had no written language at all. I do not want you to get the impression that I am exaggerating, but it remains a fact that twice as much translated literature is published in the USSR as in the United States.

I would like to dwell on one more question that has a direct bearing on the potential of our socialist system.

We are, of course, attentively following the world situation, including the arms buildup taking place in the United States and other NATO states.

Naturally, we are doing everything necessary to safeguard our defense capability. It goes without saying that significant resources are being diverted for these purposes, but even in these conditions we are not reducing our social programs.

We consider that competition in the arms buildup is contrary to the very nature of socialism. Have our peoples gained and has the world community of nations gained when the USSR and the United States acted in concert, took each other's legitimate interests into account, and acted according to the rules of international communal life? Without any doubt. The war years when we fought shoulder to shoulder against fascism gave a convincing answer to this question. Our states were able to rally together and resist the common enemy, uphold freedom, and defend civilization, although they represented different social systems.

We cooperated during the war and cooperated in drawing up postwar policy. Let me quote the words of President Roosevelt in connection with the outcome of the Yalta conference in 1945, the 40th anniversary of which has only just been marked on a broad scale in the USSR. President Roosevelt said:" We achieved unity of thought and agreement on how we would live together in the future." Unfortunately, everything has gone differently. However, that conclusion reached 40 years ago still remains valid.

In the Soviet Union there is great respect for the people of the United States and their achievements. We are convinced that the main thing at the present time is to consider together how to live in the future on one planet. It is clear that the peaceful future of our peoples and the whole of mankind does not lie along the path of the arms race and of confrontation. Knowledge of each other, mutual understanding, and trust are the key to a peaceful future for the USSR, the United States, and the entire world's peoples.

Arrival in Austin, Texas

LD090802 Moscow TASS in English 0758 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Dallas, Texas March 9 TASS -- A delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR led by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, which is staying in the United States at the invitation of the House of Representatives of American Congress, left on a tour of the country. It is being accompanied by a group of American congressmen as well as the USSR's ambassador to the United States, A.F. Dobrynin.

Austin, administrative center of Texas State, became the first city on the itinerary. The Soviet parliamentarians were welcomed at the airport there by Austin Mayor Mullen, Democratic Majority Leader in the House James Wright and other officials. When touring Austin, the members of the delegation visited Texas University. They were greeted by University President Flawn, members of the staff and students. V.V. Shcherbitskiy and the members of the Soviet delegation then met with Texas Governor Mark White.

Visit Dallas, Fort Worth

LD101100 Moscow TASS in English 1048 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Dallas March 10 TASS -- A delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR led by Vladimir Shcherbitskiy, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, is continuing its tour of the United States. On Saturday, March 9, it went sightseeing in the city of Dallas, Texas. Representatives of the authorities as well as city residents warmly welcomed the Soviet guests.

The delegation had a meeting with representatives of business circles, including managers of major Texas-based corporations. During a pithy and frank conversation they expressed interest in better relations between the USSR and the United States. Vladimir Shcherbitskiy explained to those present the principles of Soviet foreign policy, which is directed at removing the threat of a nuclear war, and spoke about the present state of Soviet-American relations.

During the exchange of opinions American participants in the meeting voiced a wish for brisker Soviet -American trade which could become an important factor for improving relations between the two countries.

The delegation toured a number of Dallas factories, including a firm manufacturing up-to-date optical and electronic equipment.

In the evening the Soviet guests visited the town of Fort Worth near Dallas. James Wright, leader of the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives of American Congress, held a reception there for the delegation, which was attended by representatives of the local public. Vladimir Shcherbitskiy and James Wright exchanged brief statements. The reception passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Talks Called 'Useful'

LD081609 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, led by Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party, has met a group of U.S. congressmen led by O'Neill, the Speaker of the House of Representatives. They discussed a broad range of problems, including the question of increasing parliamentary exchanges between the USSR and the United States.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy spoke at the meeting:

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's stay in Washington is drawing to its end, stated the head of the Soviet delegation. The days spent in the capital of your country were passed according to a full and businesslike program. We discussed the most varied aspects of Soviet-U.S. relations, and international problems. In our opinions the talks and discussions that took place were useful, Comrade Shcherbitskiy emphasized.

CHERNENKO LETTER APPLAUDED BY U.S. WAR VETERANS

LD100813 Moscow TASS in English 0805 10 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 10 TASS -- "How humanely simple and right to the point it was for you to put it in your letter: 'Descendants of the soldiers who met and embraced at the Elbe River can no longer be enemies.' I completely share your view. I will say even more: This happens to be our debt to those who struggle hand-in-hand against the forces of evil and tyranny." These words from a reply of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, to a letter from American veterans of World War II were greeted with applause by participants in a press conference devoted to preparations for observances to mark the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and the day of the historic meeting of Soviet and American troops at the Elbe on April 25, 1945.

The American veterans of World War II hailed the forthcoming Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms in Geneva. They expressed the hope that those talks will play an important role in removing the threat of a nuclear war and strengthening peace and cooperation between the people of the Soviet Union and the United States, between the people of all countries.

U.S. SHIPS SET COURSE FOR LEBANESE COAST

LD091839 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1321 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] New York, 9 Mar (TASS) -- The United States again intends to resort to a display of military force in the Near East area. The ABC television company has learned that the atomic aircraft-carrier Eisenhower and the missile-carrying cruiser Mississippi of the U.S. Navy have left port on the Spanish island of Mallorca and have set course for the Lebanese coast. In Washington they try to present this step as the necessary step caused, allegedly, by the need "to fight against state terrorism." Representatives of the administration have actively spread rumors in the last few days on the "threat of attack" on Americans and U.S. institutions in Lebanon.

ABC reports that the Pentagon has even worked out the "scenarios of the U.S. retaliatory actions." Thus, the television company reports, they closely study the possibility of "a lightning air strike" against Iran accused by Washington in "carrying out state terrorism."

MUBARAK ARRIVES IN U.S. WITH MIDEAST PROPOSAL

LD092039 Moscow TASS in English 2016 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 9 TASS -- President Mubarak of Egypt has arrived here for a five-day state visit. He will hold talks with President Reagan and other highly-placed officials in the U.S. Administration.

The Middle East situation is the chief item on the talks agenda. According to press reports, Mubarak intends to discuss, first of all, the question of his proposals for Middle East settlement.

It is known that the agreement concluded in Amman in February and Egypt's proposals were sharply criticized by anti-imperialist forces in the Middle East, since they bypassed several key [word indistinct], specifically the issue of establishing an independent Palestinian state.

BUSH TRIP FURTHERING U.S. INTERESTS IN AFRICA

PM081550 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Vladimir Tyurkin "Commentator's Column": "Blackmail by Starvation"]

[Text] The West is shamelessly exploiting the calamitous situation in the majority of African countries, which are experiencing an acute food shortage. The West is doing this for its own ends, having nothing to do with humanity. The trip by U.S. Vice President G. Bush to Sudan, Niger, and Mali, which are suffering severely from drought, is graphic confirmation of this.

Delivering a widely publicized statement on U.S. food aid to Africa on the eve of his trip, essentially a policy statement, the Vice President did not begin to conceal that its main aim is to "secure economic reforms" in the spirit of "free enterprise" and to "organize and develop a market economy," that is, to push African countries onto the path of unhindered capitalist development. Thus, it follows from these unambiguous guidelines that only those who heed the Washington political-ideological directive expressed by G. Bush can count on U.S. aid.

Nor are more specific interests forgotten. It was Bush who plainly announced in his speech: "We must help promote our dollars and our investments." In other words, by exploiting the famine in Africa, Washington is striving to secure advantageous conditions for U.S. multinational companies.

Against this background those African countries that are not prepared to forgo their independence in exchange for a U.S. handout are being subjected to overt and malicious persecution. G. Bush and other U.S. officials, for example, do not tire of coming down on Ethiopia, demanding "political concessions" from its government, particularly dialogue with the separatists advocating the country's division.

The U.S. vice president's trip shows once again the real worth of Washington's propaganda assertions about the "selfless" aid the United States is supposedly giving to starving Africa. No, it is not humanism that determines the Reagan administration's policy vis-a-vis the countries of the Dark Continent, but naked calculation and the desire to uphold its own political and economic diktat there.

Such unparalleled cynicism provokes legitimate indignation throughout Africa. It is hard not to agree with the opinion of the Senegalese newspaper LE SOLEIL DU SENEGAL, which believes that his is a "badly camouflaged desire to impose government dependence on Third World countries." By speculating with Africa's problems, Washington would patently like to extend the scale of its own expansion. This is also confirmed very vividly by the U.S. vice president's trip.

'Propaganda Campaign' Viewed

LD081835 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1424 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 8 Mar (TASS) -- TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

The more alarming the reports coming in from Africa -- about drought, hunger, and disease -- the more inspiring the speeches about U.S. aid and U.S. "humanism" by high-ranking members of the Reagan administration. This propaganda campaign reached an all-time high during the present trip to the African Sahel by Vice President George Bush, who has already visited Sudan and is now in Niger on his way to Mali.

The vice president's trip is a political act aimed at undermining the faith of the African people in the progressive regimes on the continent, using supplies of long-kept American grain to broaden Washington's crude interference in the affairs of sovereign states, and inspiring inter-African conflicts.

The style of the former CIA chief can be sensed clearly in the propagandist nature of the trip by the present U.S. vice president. The guest from across the ocean had scarcely touched down at Niamey airport before the American Embassy in the Niger capital was making a provocative statement about "Washington's anxiety over Niger's vulnerability in the face of Libya's subversive activity."

G. Bush evidently wishes to drive a wedge between the two neighboring African states and to prevent the Libyan side from rendering aid to the hundreds of thousands of people of Niger suffering from drought and the poor harvest, and in this way to impose U.S. food supplies even more strongly on the Niamey regime. Behind such "philanthrophy" it is not difficult to discern a U.S. desire to gain a "privileged position" in uranium-rich Niger and to gain that country's support for Washington's hegemonistic policy toward Libya, Chad, and other countries in the region.

G. Buch's visit to the Sudan was an even more provocative one. He devoted most of his time in Khartoum to attacks on neighboring Socialist Ethiopia. The vice president did not justify the hopes of the Sudanese authorities for a full restoration of previously promised U.S. aid, but then reported the Reagan administration's decision to continue and to expand, bypassing the Ethiopian Government, the transfer of material for the separatist groups which are being armed in the Provinces of Eritrea and Tigray.

Taking advantage of the disaster in Ethiopia to legalize and give mass support to the terrorist bands who are trying to split Ethiopia, the United States has shown that it is trying to exacerbate the situation in that country, using methods already tested by the CIA in Angola, Mozambique, and Nicaragua.

U.S. USING 'FOOD WEAPON' TO INTERFERE IN ETHIOPIA

LD081452 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 8 TASS -- The Reagan administration has begun openly using the "food weapon" for staging military-political interference in the affairs of Ethiopia. UPI news agency reported from Khartoum that U.S. Vice-President George Bush had told a press conference there about the U.S. decision to continue and step up shipments to Eritrea and Tigray Provinces in circumvention of the Ethiopian Government. It followed from his statement that the aid was meant for separatist groups operating in Ethiopia's north.

Although Washington is really keen to Vice-President Bush's African tour as a "mission of charity", there is no doubt that the United States wants to play on the suffering of millions of people in drought-hit countries to project its expansionist interests. The natural calamity in Ethiopia has been selected as a pretext for legalizing the terrorist gangs, which seek to split the country, and giving them massive aid.

Acting in line with its policy of state terrorism, the Reagan administration tries to worsen the situation in Ethiopia by using the same methods as employed against Mozambique, Angola and Nicaragua. A member of the vice-president's delegation told journalists cynically that the U.S. Administration was prepared to ignore possible protests by Ethiopia whose government sees U.S. aid to secessionists as a violation of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Bush's entourage do not make a secret out of the fact that increased supplies to separatists, which are carried out under the direct control of the C.I.A., "may lead" to a cutting off of the aid provided to drought victimes via official channels. These actions, which show that no African state is ensured against such interference, are perceived with anxiety in African capitals. A provocative ceremony at the Khartoum airport in Bush's presence, where three million dollars worh of U.S. shipments were handed over to representatives of separatists, became a real challenge to the generally accepted norms of relations between states.

The scope of the plot against Ethiopia is indicated also by the fact that one of the main themes discussed by the former C.I.A. director with Sudanese leaders was that of Tel Aviv's recent operation, staged with Washington's assistance, to forcibly take Falashas, Ethiopian citizens of Judaic faith, out of Ethiopia and into Israel, Sudan, as is known, served as the transshipment point during that operation. Answering journalists' questions, one of Bush's closest aides flatly refused to give details about "consultations" on this problem. News analysts see this "reticence" as indicating the intention of the United States and its allies to continue the flagrantly anti-Ethiopian provocation.

U.S. MOVES TO BLOCK IADB LOAN TO NICARAGUA

LD082205 Moscow TASS in English 2142 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 8 TASS -- The United States Administration has undertaken yet another openly hostile step with regard to Nicaragua. It has become known that Washington has blocked the granting to Nicaragua of a loan by the Inter-American Development Bank [IADB]. The Sandinista government requested the loan worth about 60 million dollars to provide credits for Nicaraguan farmers and compensate for other expenses connected with the country's agricultural development. Washington launched a behind-the-scene campaign led personally by Secretary of State George Shultz. In a letter sent to the bank president, the head of the State Department peremptorily demanded that the loan be not granted. He accompanied the demand by false accusations against the Sandinista government.

Realizing that "arguments" of this kind can fail to produce the required effect, the secretary of state resorted to direct threats. He made absolutely clear that if Washington's demands are not taken into account, the Inter-American Development Bank will lose U.S. financial backing. Today's WASHINGTON POST quoted a highly placed bank official as saying that it is difficult to qualify the statement of this kind as anything but a threat. Simultaneously, covert pressure was applied to Latin American countries represented in the bank. THE WASHINGTON POST described the administration's actions as unprecedented.

PLOT TO KILL NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION LEADER EXPOSED

LD081404 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Nicaragua has exposed attempts by America's Central Intelligence Agency to carry out a major political provocation against the Republic. According to Nicaraguan intelligence, the CIA has worked out a plan to assassinate the opposition leader, Arturo Cruz, and hold the Nicaraguan Government responsible for that. Nicaragua's Interior Ministry has issued a statement noting that by this crime the Central Intelligence Agency intended to discredit the Nicaraguan authorities and make it impossible to settle the situation in Central America. An opportunity for a settlement has appeared as a result of Nicaragua's new peace initiatives.

CHINA

PRC NPC DELEGATION VISITS KIEV, LENINGRAD

Activities in Kiev

PM081511 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Stay"]

[Text] Kiev, 7 Mar -- A delegation of the Chinese National People's Congress [NPC] led by Zhang Chengxian, member of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, is here.

The guests have visited the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. They were familiarized with the working people's achievements in socioeconomic and cultural building.

The head of the National People's Congress delegation noted that the aim of the visit is to deepen mutual understanding between the two countries' peoples, strengthen friendship, and exchange experience of parliamentary activity.

The PRC's emissaries laid a wreath today at the tomb of the unknown soldier in the Park of Eternal Glory and visited the "Ukrainian State Museum of the History of the 1941-1945 Great Patriotic War" memorial complex.

Zhang Chengxian on Cooperation

LD081624 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] A visit continues: Contacts between parliamentarians of the two countries help mutual understanding between their peoples, said Zhang Chengxian, the head of the delegation of the Chinese National People's Congress and a member of the Congress' Standing Committee.

The Chinese parliamentarians today completed their visit to Kiev. Having acquainted themselves with the commemorative sites of the Soviet people's combat glory, the head of the delegation said that the USSR's victory over the fascist invaders inspired the peoples of the whole world, including the Chinese, toward the revolutionary struggle. In recent years, he stressed, relations between the PRC and the USSR have become developed. A number of documents aimed at widening economic cooperation have been signed. Undoubtedly, both China and the Soviet Union have immense opportunities for deepening contacts in the most varied fields.

Prior to their departure for Leningrad, the Chinese parliamentarains visited the Kiev branch of the Lenin Central Museum and viewed the historic sights of the city.

Arrives in Leningrad

LD092113 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Tour of the Country"]

[Text] The delegation of the Chinese National People's Congress, led by Zhang Chengxian, member of its Standing Committee, has ended its stay in Kiev and has started getting to know Leningrad 9 March. At Piskarev Memorial Cemetary where Leningraders and servicemen who fell during the Great Patriotic War are buried, the parliamentarians from the PRC laid a wreath.

The head of the delegation signed the book of honored visitors. He stressed that it is necessary to strive to create a situation in which the world would no longer suffer from wars. That is the common aspiration of the Chinese and Soviet peoples and peoples throughout the world. In Smolnyy the guests looked around the V.I. Lenin Memorial Museum. In the evening they familiarized themselves with the city's cultural life.

Meets With Khodyrev

LD101529 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 10 Mar 85

["Chinese Parliamentarians in Leningrad" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Leningrad March 10 TASS -- A meeting took place at the Leningrad City Soviet of People's Deputies between Vladimir Khodyrev, chairman of the soviet's executive committee, and a delegation from the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China. Greeting the guests, Khodyrev said that the working people of the Leningrad city and region, just like all Soviet people, have received with satisfaction the offical visit by the parliamentarians from the People's Republic of China and hope that it will serve the further development of relations between the USSR and the PRC. Contacts between parliamentarians of the two countries are also called upon the help strengthen trust and goodneighbourliness.

Delegation leader Zhang Chengxian, a member of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, conveyed ardent greetings from the people of his country to the Leningraders. He spoke out for further developing Chinese-Soviet cooperation and strengthening mutual understanding and friendship. Their stay in Leningrad, Zhang Chengxian said, has enabled the delegation members "to see the tremendous achievements of working people in developing the economy, science and culture."

PRC COMMEMORATES JAPANESE CHEMICAL WARFARE SITE

PM081300 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Unforgotten"]

[Text] Beijing, 7 Mar -- XINHUA reports that the people's government of Heilongjiang (northeast China) has decided to create a memorial museum on the territory of a former center for the development and testing of bacteriological weapons which was set up in Pingfang District near Harbin during the Japanese militarists' occupation of Manchuria.

This "center," XINHUA notes, started operating in 1933 and existed until 1945, that is, until the Kwantung Army's rout by Soviet forces. Here a special Kwantung Army formation -- Detachment 731 -- tested carriers of epidemic disease bacteria and chemical weapons on people. The Soviet forces' lightning offensive wrecked Japan's plans to use these barbaric mass destruction weapons extensively.

The creation of the memorial, a spokesman for the people's government stated, serves as a reminder of the atrocities and crimes which the Japanese occupiers committed against the Chinese people, the XINHUA report says.

INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER TO VISIT MID-MARCH

LD081812 Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 8 TASS -- The defence minister of the Republic of India, P.V. Narasimha Rao, will pay an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union in mid-March at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

PAKISTAN'S ZIA DENIES BUYING NUCLEAR BOMB PARTS

LD081758 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2039 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 7 Feb [as received] (TASS) -- TASS observer Valeriy Vavilov writes:

Pakistani merchants in the United States are acquiring not electronic gadgets for nuclear bomb detonators but merely the simplest switches for car signal lights. This is how President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan, in a CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR interview, explained the use Pakistani officials make of the U.S. market to acquire the components necessary for a nuclear bomb.

So what is Pakistan purchasing in the United States? Innocent switches for signal lights to put on car roofs? Ziaul Haq's concern for the absence of such lamps is, of course, quite understandable: The military regime in Pakistan needs lots of police cars with such signal systems for dispersing antigovernment demonstrations, for crushing the forces of the opposition. It is true that in the past the authorities managed without signal lights, deploying Armed Forces units against the protesters but now, following the recent farce of the parliamentary elections, a new period is apparently setting in when a more active role is being prepared for the police apparatus.

Surely Pakistan was not buying the most complex and expensive electronic devices such as cryotrons from E.G. and G. Inc., and even evading U.S. customs laws, simply for signal lamps?

Pakistan, as THE WASHINGTON POST wrote, is trying to produce its own atomic bomb. Its individual components are already in a state of readiness. And as Ziaul Haq himself boasted, Pakistan has become the sixth state in the world to produce enriched uranium. According to the Americans, Pakistan could produce at least a dozen atomic bombs in the next 3-5 years.

It is not only cryotrons that Pakistan is acquiring from the United States, Canada, and other Western countries. There is a considerable illegal demand for zirconium, inverters, electronic devices, and even drawings and technical documentation for nuclear production. This "trading" activity has to be disguised. The export of such equipment from the United States and other countries is forbidden, but it flourishes all the same and the authorities in the United States and their allies clearly connive at it.

The huge, multimillion dollar U.S. military assistance program, made available to the military regime by the U.S. Administration, is also intended to bring about the comprehensive militarization of Pakistan. This is causing serious concern to the governments of neighboring countries, India and Afghanistan. Because of U.S. deliveries of the latest weaponry, India's HINDU newspaper notes, military experts consider that in 1985 Islamabad will possess an offensive potential directed against Afghanistan and India. This is a dangerous course.

PRAVDA REPORTS JARUZELSKI-GENSCHER MEETING

PM081521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Warsaw, 7 Mar -- W. Jaruzelski, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, has received here H.-D. Genscher, FRG vice federal chancellor and foreign minister, who is in Poland on a brief working visit. Talks were held between Polish Foreign Minister S. Olszowski and H.-D. Genscher. During the conversations and talks, the sides exchanged opinions on key problems of the mutual situation and the most topical questions of the international situation.

PAP agency reports that the Polish side stressed the inviolability of the territorial and political structure in Europe, established on the basis of the Yalta and Possdam conferences' decisions and postwar development. The attempts to undermine the existing situation pose a threat to all states and peoples of the European Continent. Here the revanchist tendencies that have appeared in the FRG were pointed out, as were the attempts being made by certain political circles to review the existing borders in Europe.

The Polish side deems the U.S. endeavor to militarize space and extend the arms race to space to be particularly dangerous to the cause of peace. The threat to security and peace as a result of the deployment of new U.S. missiles on the territory of the West European NATO countries, including the FRG, was pointed out. It was stressed that the main cause of tension in the world is the policy of the United States which is striving to achieve military-strategic superiority over the Warsaw Pact countries.

The Polish side, PAP stresses, reaffirmed its desire to develop mutual relations with the FRG on the basis of principles of equal rights, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

POLISH, SOVIET TRADE UNION OFFICIALS HOLD TALKS

LD081257 Warsaw PAP in English 1127 GMT 8 Mar 85

[By PAP correspondent Leslaw Kolijewicz]

[Text] Moscow, March 7: Deputy Chaiman of the National Agreement of Trade Unions (OPZZ) Romuald Sosnowski had talks here with Secretary of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions Kazimieras Macriawiczius on further development of bilateral cooperation of Polish and Soviet trade unions and collaboration in the international arena.

Sosnowski called on the editorial staff of the TRUD newspaper, an organ of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, discussing ways of broadening cooperation between the Polish and Soviet trade union press.

The OPZZ deputy chairman represented Polish trade union movement also at an international meeting of representatives of trade unions from bureau countries held here under the motto "40 years without war: Prospects for European cooperation and the role of trade unions."

Representatives of the trade unions movement from 18 countries, including 10 West European ones, took part in the meeting.

Speaking at a plenary discussion, Sosnowski told the meeting about the situation in Polish trade union movement.

As a particularly weighty task for the labor movement today he singled out firm action against the designs of the forces of militarism, reaction and revanchism to undermine the decisions of the Yalta and Potsdam conferences.

Cooperation of trade union movement in Europe and worldwide can take place only under the conditions of non-interference in the internal affairs of states, nations and trade unions themselves, he said.

But Poland has so far been the continual target of foreign attempts to interference in its internal affairs, with the new trade unions being a target of particular "interest". These unions already play such a meaningful role in the life of Polish society that they cannot be ignored, as the ILO and some Western trade union organizations are trying to do, said Sosnowski.

FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY HONORS ALBANIAN UPRISING HERO

PM081302 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Board Session"]

[Text] A session of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society Board devoted to the memory of K. Kristoforidhi, a figure in the Albanian national uprising, was held in Moscow 7 March.

FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DUMAS CONDUCTS VISIT

Arrives in Moscow

LD101823 Moscow TASS in English 1738 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 10 TASS -- French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas has arrived on a visit in Moscow today at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport he was welcomed by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, and other officials.

Among the welcoming party was France's Ambassador to the USSR Jean-Bernard Raimond.

Talks With Gromyko Begin

LD110939 Moscow TASS in English 0935 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 11 TASS -- Negotiations opened here today between member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko and Minister for External Relations of France Roland Dumas. Roland Dumas is on a visit to the USSR since Sunday at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Commentary Previews Visit

LD101135 Moscow International Service in French 1830 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Vitaliy Andreyev commentary]

[Excerpts] It has been announced in Moscow and Paris that Roland Dumas, French external relations minister, would soon come to the USSR. This visit forms part of the dialogue between Moscow and Paris which (?began) to develop after President Francois Mitterrand's official visit to the USSR last June.

The Soviet Union invariably defines its position in favor of good relations with France and considers them to be a constant and important factor in European and international policy, our observer Vitaliy Andreyev writes. In their positions as two great European powers, the Soviet Union and France can contribute to strengthening security in Europe and in the rest of the world.

This is of particular relevance today in the context of tensions that are strongly aggravated by militarist and imperialist circles, primarily by the United States which is trying to destroy East-West relations, gain military superiority and is whipping up the arms race. The U.S. Administration is openly banking on the arms race in outer space to [words indistinct] its will to peoples and states. Tens of thousands of dollars have already been allocated to research in the field of space weapons. If one does not really intend to use these weapons aggressively, why then throw away huge sums of money? It is clear that this is done to gain military superiority and to break the strategic balance.

What interest does France have in it? Does this further round of the arms race, which is practically out of control, correspond to its national interests? The Soviet Union paid attention to President Francois Mitterrand's statement on the danger of transferring the arms race to space. Other French politicians express the same opinion. Therefore, there are areas in which the interests of Paris and Moscow overlap on topical issues; in other words, there is possibility for dialogue and joint agreements. It is important that the USSR and France should put all their strength behind ensuring that outer space, the suburbs of the earth, is free from nuclear weapons, and from any weapons, in Geneva.

The USSR and France are two great world powers. Their opinion is valued throughout the world. Could not the two countries act together to reduce tension and settle conflict in the world's trouble spots -- in the Middle East, Central America, and Southeast Asia? The possibility exists and must be exploited. The commercial, economic, scientific, and technical links play an important part in strengthening mutual understanding. France is one of the USSR's main partners in the capitalist world. Our reciprocal trade increases every year. The USSR buys machines, equipment, and other industrial and agricultural products and delivers energy raw materials and products in demand in the French market. Soviet-French trade is rich in unexplored potential. In order to open trade up to great new prospects the artificial restrictions and obstacles that hamper its development must be lifted.

Our scientific and technical exchanges are fruitful. The two countries work together on large-scale scientific problems that affect the whole of humanity: energy, protection of the environment, exploration of the oceans, etc.

Cultural exchanges without any doubt promote reciprocal enrichment, the strengthening of ties of friendship, and mutual understanding. There is good reason to recall on the eve of the visit by the French minister that relations between our countries are rooted in history. They were (?strengthened) during the years of the common fight against fascism. Today, one should not forget the lessons of history. The main lesson is that cooperation between the USSR and France has always been a factor in the security and stability of Europe. This is why the Soviet public hopes that the visit by Roland Dumas to Moscow will give a new boost to relations between the Soviet Union and France. The cause of peace and international security could only gain from this writes Vitaliy Andreyev in his commentary.

Prearrival Interview

PM081745 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent I. Shchedrov under "Our Interviews" rubric: "Relations Are Developing"]

[Text] Paris, 8 Mar -- The imminent visit to the USSR by Roland Dumas, French minister of external relations, at the Soviet Government's invitation is awaited here with great interest. On the eve of his trip your correspondent met with the head of the French diplomatic department.

"We attach great importance," Roland Dumas stated, "to the development and deepening of the traditional relations between France and the Soviet Union and the discussions of topical problems of the moment. During our meetings with Soviet leaders in Moscow we will have to discuss the state of and prospects for Franco-Soviet relations as well as such vitally important international problems as East-West relations, and the Geneva talks. The situation in a number of crisis regions of the world. We hope," he went on, "to gain a closer acquaintance with the Soviet viewpoint and also to explain France's positon on these problems, including questions of peace and security."

Relations between France and the Soviet Union, the minister of external relations emphasized, are developing normally on the whole. They were given renewed impetus during last summer's summit meetings in Moscow. Concerning trade and economic ties between our countries, he stated that the French side attaches great importance to the work of the Franco-Soviet "grand commission," which is scheduled to convene in Paris at the end of this month.

We hope, the minister observed in conclusion, for a continuation of the positive dialogue with the Soviet Union which, as one repeated occasions in the past, has been producing important results that open up new horizons.

Finally, speaking in Russian, which he is studying in preparation for his first trip to Moscow, R. Dumas added: "Glad to have met you. Good-bye."

FRENCH CP LEADER SPEAKS ON UPCOMING ELECTIONS

LD091503 Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Paris March 9 TASS -- General Secretary of the French Communist Party Georges Marchais spoke at a meeting in the Parisian suburb Villejuif on the eve of the cantonal elections whose first round will be held in France on March 10.

Stressing that the elections of members of the general councils (local government bodies) that play an important role in departments of the country are of much political importance, the leader of the French Communists urged the voters to cast their ballots for candidates of the French Communist Party who express the will of the working people. Georges Marchais stressed that it is only the Communists who are determined to wage the struggle against the sway of big business. While a handful of the rich get huge profits, unemployment and inflation are growing in France, said the general secretary of the French Communist Party. He described the present level of unemployment as a national tragedy. Millions of families can hardly make ends meet, are affected by inordinately high rents, high prices.

Georges Marchais urged the working people to join more actively in the struggle for their rights. Suppression of rights at enterprises is spreading in France, he said. Anti-Communist sallies of the bourgeois mass media assume an ever more open character. The press is making much of the ultra-right, for instance, leader of the "National Front" party Le Pen. Georges Marchais stressed that the French Communist Party is the most consistent fighter against fascist political organizations. He said that voting for Communists is the surest way of hampering the intensification of ultra-right forces in France.

ZIMYANIN-LED PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION VISITS FRG

Departs Moscow

LD101032 Moscow TASS in English 1019 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 10 TASS -- A delegation from the parliamentary group of the USSR led by Mikhail Zimyanin, deputy chairman of the Foreign Relations Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Moscow from the Federal Republic of Germany today at the invitation of the Bundestag of the FRG.

The delegation includes MPs Leonid Zamyatin, Gennadiy Vedernikov, Pavel Gil and Igor Glebov.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Nikolay Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

Arrives in Hamburg

LD101440 Moscow TASS in English 1356 GMT 10 Mar 85

["Soviet Parliamentary Delegation Arrives in Hamburg" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Hamburg March 10 TASS -- A delegation of the parliamentary group of the USSR led by Mikhail Zimyanin, deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, have arrived here todayat the invitation of the Bundestag of the Federal Republic of Germany. At the airport the delegation were met by Peter Shultz, president of the City Assembly of Hamburg Deputies, and by other officials. Among the welcoming party was Vladimir Semenov, the ambassador of the USSR to the FRG.

Mikhail Zimyanin made a statement for the press. The statement says, in particular:

"This visit of the delegation of the parliamentary group of the USSR means a continuation of the practice of inter-parliamentary exchanges between our states. This, as it seems to us, is particularly important now that an intensive political dialogue is highly necessary, a dialogue which would contribute to improving the international situation and to solving the cardinal problems of our time. A prominent role in this process belongs, undoubtedly, to parliaments".

"You and we have something to discuss. These include both international affairs and matters of bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany. We shall be glad to get acquainted more closely with the present-day life of your country and your people.

"The leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and of our state have repeatedly reaffirmed that we want to have goodneighbourly relations with the FRG. Such relationships are necessary not only for our countries. They are necessary for the whole of Europe, and not only Europe.

"We expect that the forthcoming meetings and conversations will serve better mutual understanding between our two countries and peoples and will contribute to the strengthening of their peaceful and mutually beneficial cooperation".

Mikhail Zimyanin conveyed the wishes of wellbeing in the conditions of peace to the people of the FRG and to the residents of Hamburg.

Visits Concentration Camp

LD101949 Moscow TASS in English 1738 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Hamburg March 10 TASS -- The USSR parliamentary delegation led by Mikhail Zimyanin, who arrived here today, visited the territory of the former Nazi Neuengamme concentration camp near Hamburg. Wreaths and flowers were laid to the memorial of victims of nazism.

Breaks Off Visit

LD110819 Hamburg DPA in German 0810 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Bonn, 11 Mar (DPA) -- Due to the latest, as yet unclarified development in the Soviet Union, a high-ranking delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet broke off its visit to the FRG early Monday and flew back to Moscow.

The 12-man delegation had arrived Sunday afternoon in Hamburg and was to visit, among other places Bonn, Duesseldorf, the Ruhr, and Mainz during a 1-week stay. According to the Bundestag Press Office it left for home from Hamburg.

The delegation came to the FRG at the invitation of the Bundestag. It was led by Mikhail V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities Foreign Affairs Commission of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Returns to Moscow

LD111417 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1250 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 11 March (TASS) -- The delegation of the USSR parliamentary group led by Mikhail Zimyanin, deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet Nationalities, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, returned to Moscow today from the FRG.

FRG 'ULTIMATUM' ON ARMS TO SAUDIS CRITICIZED

PM081254 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Shevchenko article: "Direct Interference"]

[Text] West Germany, one of the arms suppliers to Saudi Arabia, recently gave Riyadh an ultimatum: Arms deliveries (it is a question of major consignments of Leopard 2 tanks) will only be continued if Saudi Arabia recognizes Israel. This step by Bonn is seen in Arab political circles as direct interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state.

As is well known, the FRG, which has extensive economic interests in the Near East, camouflages its pro-Israeli policy in every possible way and plays along with the Arab world. Thus, prior to Egyptian President Mubarak's visit to the FRG at the end of last year, Boenisch, official spokesman for the Federal Government, stated that in its Near East policy the FRG proceeds on the basis of recognition of Israel and also the right of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination. It seemed that after such statements one might have expected that one fine day the FRG, which provides considerable economic and military aid to Israel, would end it (as happened with Saudi Arabia) and require Tel Aviv to recognize Palestinians' legitimate rights. However, the facts testify to another approach by Bonn politicians in Near East affairs.

Recently, information filtered into the press that Israeli mercenaries in the so-called south Lebanese army were receiving instruction from West German officers. This was admitted by one of the aides to "commander" of the puppet army. So the assurances that Bonn has given the Arab leaders about its desire for a just peace in the Near East are just a diplomatic cover for economic penetration of the region.

FURTHER ON REACTION TO JORDANIAN-PLO ACCORD

Husayn-Mubarak Talks Criticized

PM081500 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "To the Detriment of the Palestinians' Interests"]

[Text] Cairo, 7 Mar -- Talks between King Husayn of Jordan and Egyptian President H. Mubarak have ended in the Egyptian city of Al Ghurdaqah on the Red Sea. The sides discussed the situation that now exists in the region as a result of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement reached in Amman 11 February and the Near East settlement proposals put forward by the Egyptian president.

The Amman agreement provoked the sharp condemnation of anti-imperialist forces in the Arab east. The agreement overlooks a number of key aspects, in particular the question of the creation of an independent Palestinian state and the PLO's direct participation in the settlement process as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It was also noted that it contradicts the decisions of the conference of heads of Arab states and governments in Fes. The agreement envisages PLO participation in the peace talks "as part of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation."

On the PLO's initiative, the provisions of the agreement were discussed again in Amman. At a press conference in Al Ghurdaqah, King Husayn denied that there had been any amendments to the text of the agreement. "No changes have been made to the agreement," he said. "Some points were merely clarified, without changing the nature of the agreement." In other words, the king effectively refuted a PLO spokesman's statement claiming that Jordan had agreed to make changes to the document.

H. Mubarak, in his statement, noted that he and King Husayn have the same view regarding the need to "initiate a dialogue" between the U.S. Administration and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Damascus, 7 Mar -- The Ba'th Party leadership has made a statement condemning the Amman agreement between King Husayn of Jordan and Y. 'Arafat and Egyptian President H. Mubarak's proposals.

The Ba'th Party statement notes, in part, that the aim of the agreement is to remove all the obstacles in the way of speparate talks between Israel, Jordan, and Egypt with the participation of the United States.

'Arafat Reaffirms Agreement

LD091245 Moscow TASS in English 1219 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Paris March 9 TASS -- Yasir 'Arafat has reaffirmed his commitment to the agreement with King Husayn of Jordan, reached in Amman on February 11, 1985. Speaking in an interview transmitted by French TF-1 television, he said, in particular: "I am bound by the text of the agreement I have signed with the king of Jordan." Thereby 'Arafat in effect disavowed a recent statement by a PLO spokesman that during Jordanian-Palestinian talks several days ago Jordan gave its consent to the introduction of changes in the agreement's text.

As is known, the Amman agreement has been sharply criticized and denounced by most Palestinian organizations and anti-imperialist forces in the Arab east.

They stressed that it sidesteps a number of key issues, including that of the creation of an independent Palestinian state and the direct involvement of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people, in the settlement process, thus jeopardizing the just cause of the Palestinians who courageously uphold their inalienable rights at the price of huge sacrifices in the bitter struggle with imperialism and Zionism. Palestinian and Arab politicians also said that the agreement contradicts the decisions of the Fes conference of the heads of state and government of Arab countries and the 16th session of the National Council of Palestine and is an attempt to push the PLO to the road of separate deals which the United States and Israel seek to force on the Arabs.

SYRIAN REVOLUTION DAY MEETING HELD IN MOSCOW

PM081628 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Public Meeting"]

[Text] The further strengthening of relations of friendship and all-around cooperation between the USSR and Syria corresponds to the interests of both countries' peoples and the cause of progress and peace in the Near East and worldwide. This was stressed 6 March at a Moscow meeting of representatives of the public devoted to the Syrian national holiday -- Revolution Day. M.A. al-Halabi, Syrian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the meeting.

ACTIONS ON IRAN-IRAQ FRONT, UN APPEAL REPORTED

LD102207 Moscow TASS in English 2111 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad March 10 TASS -- The Iraqi Airforce attacked today a "naval target" in the area of the Iranian Khark Island in the Persian Gulf, a military spokesman said on Baghdad radio. The Iraqi Airforce twice bombed today the Iranian city of Esfahan. Some targets in the city of Tabriz came under rocket fire in the evening today, says the communique issued here by the Iraqi high military command. Iraqi Airforce planes flew 282 combat missions, attacking enemy positions, military equipment and personnel. All aircraft returned safely to base. The communique also says that losses have been inflicted on the enemy as a result of combat operations in the central sector of the front and in Maysan sector. The Iraqi artillery heavily shelled Iranian positions in the area east of Basra. The outskirts of that Iraqi city were again shelled by the Iranian side yesterday and today.

Nicosia March 10 TASS -- According to a Tehran radio report, the Iraqi Airforce bombed today the city of Esfahan, Iran's second biggest, situated at a distance of more than 400 km from the frontline. The Iraqi Airforce, the Iranian news agency IRNA said, also continued the bombing of Abadan and attacked the city of Salehabad in Iran's Ilam Province. The cities of Andimeshk, Ramhormoz and Nahavand came under Iraqi rocket fire. Eight Iranian cities came today under the attacks of the Iraqi Airforce and rocket fire. As a result more than 150 persons were killed and hundreds injured. In its turn, the IRNA agency said, [word indistinct] Iranian Airforce bombed today an oil refinery in the Iraqi city of Khanaqin and the cities of Ali al-Gharbi and Ali al-Sharqi. Today the Iranian Airforce bombed Iraqi "military and economic targets" in Iraq's Sulaymaniyah and Irbil Provinces in the country's northeast. Thus, in particular, a bombing raid was launched against the city of Margasur.

New York March 10 TASS -- U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar has urged the warring sides to refrain from deliberate military actions against civilian targets. In messages of an identical contents addressed to the Governments of Iran and Iraq he deplored [words indistinct] hostilities on the Iranian-Iraqi front and urged both governments to put an end to attacks against civilian targets beginning from March 11.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA DENOUNCES U.S. 'AGGRESSION'

LD110922 Moscow TASS in English 0854 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Managua March 11 TASS -- The United States is seeking to preserve military dictatorships in Latin America and hinder democratic processes taking place in the region, member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega has declared. Addressing a mass rally in the city of Matagalpa, he stressed that the United States praises the Pinochet regime and, at the same time, slanders the Nicaraguan Government that has been elected by the people.

President Reagan, said Daniel Ortega, discarded the false pretexts he had earlier invented to justify criminal aggression against Nicaragua, and openly demanded the overthrow of people's power. The White House is pressing for more multi-million dollar allocations for CIA-hired gangs so that they could continue the killings of Nicaraguan women and children.

By resorting to terror, the United States wants to reinstate in Nicaragua the dictatorship of Somocistas and exploiters, but the Republic's people will not allow this to happen, the president stressed.

The U.S. military actions against the Nicaraguan revolution are accompanied by political machinations, Daniel Ortega pointed out. He denounced the CIA's criminal attempts to unite their hirelings with right-wing forces operating inside the country. The Nicaraguan people, the Sandinista National Liberation Front and the government will not allow the establishment of a counter-revolutionary alliance that would serve the criminal aims of the Central Intelligence Agency. Let those who want to enter into alliance with the foreign imperialist power and murderers of unarmed Nicaraguan citizens go to military camps of the CIA mercenaries and try and fight Nicaraguan patriots on a battlefield, Daniel Ortega pointed out.

The president of the Republic stressed that the government strives to consolidate national unity and calls for that various political and economic circles in the country. People's power, he stressed, gave all Nicaraguans, drawn into counter-revolutionary activities, the possibility to return to normal life. More than 660 citizens already took advantage of the amnesty announced early this year.

Nicaragua's peace efforts on the international arena encounter stubborn resistance on the part of the United States which hinders in all ways political settlement and, specifically, the activity of the Contadora Group. Simultaneously, the Reagan administration is exerting pressure on various countries in Latin America and financial organizations in an attempt to thwart the granting of credits to the Republic and deprive it of oil supplies.

The Nicaraguan Government will continue the struggle for peace, but the United States should, at last, display responsibility and sobriety, return to the negotiating table to search for ways for a just and fair settlement of the existing problems, Daniel Ortega stressed.

CPSU GENERAL SECRETARY KONSTANTIN CHERNENKO DIES

TV Announces Death

OW111111 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1100 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] From the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers inform the party and all Soviet people with profound grief that on 10 March 1985 at 1920 [1620 GMT] Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, died after a grave illness.

[Video shows portrait of Chernenko within red and black borders]

The name of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, outstanding figure of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, staunch fighter for the ideal of communism and for peace, will remain forever in the hearts of the Soviet people and all progressive mankind.

[This announcement is repeated once.]

Funeral Set for 13 March

LD111155 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1150 GMT 11 Mar 85

["From the Commission on Organizing Funeral of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Mar (TASS) -- The commission announces that Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's funeral will take place on Wednesday, 13 March at 1300 in Red Square.

Gorbachev To Head Commission

LD111152 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1139 GMT 11 Mar 85

["In the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 11 March (TASS) -- The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have decreed:

1. That a commission be formed to organize the funeral of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, consisting of the following:

Comrade M.S. Gorbachev (chairman), G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov, V.V. Grishin, A.A. Gromyko, G.V. Romanov, M.S. Solomentsev, N.A. Tikhonov, V.I. Dolgikh, V.V. Kuznetsov, B.N. Ponomarev, V.M. Chebrikov, M.V. Zimyanin, Ye.K. Ligachev, G.M. Markov, V.M. Mishin, V.V. Tereshkova, P.N. Fedoseyev, S.A. Shalayev, Yu.A.Prokofyev and S.S. Tsiglimov.

2. That K.U. Chernenko be buried in Red Square.

Body Placed in Hall of Columns

LD111201 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1146 GMT 11 Mar 85

["From the Commission Organizing the Funeral of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Mar (TASS) -- The commission announces that the coffin containing the body of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko was placed in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions on 11 March 1985.

Access to the Hall of Columns for the working people to bid farewell to Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko will be open on 12 March 1985 from 1000 to 2200 [0700 to 1900 GMT], and on 13 March from 0900 to 1300 [0630 to 0900 GMT].

CPSU Address to People

LD111132 Moscow TASS in English 1122 GMT 11 Mar 85

["Address by the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers to the Soviet people" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 11 TASS -- Dear comrades,

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet state, all Soviet people suffered a grave loss. Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, an outstanding party and state figure, patriot and internationalist, consistent fighter for the triumph of the ideals of communism and peace on earth, has died.

All of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's life was devoted to the cause of the Leninist party, to the interests of the Soviet people. Whatever post the party assigned to him, he invariable fought with characteristic selflessness for the implementation of the policy of the CPSU of which he was a member for more than fifty years.

Konstantin Chernenko travelled the road from a Komsomol leader and the party organizer of a frontier post to general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. As he held the highest offices in the party and the state, his gift of an organiser, a leader of the Leninist type has fully revealed itself. The party Central Committee and the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee headed by Konstantin Chernenko were carrying out large-scale and fruitful work to mobilize the working people for the fulfillment of the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent plenary meetings of the Central Committee.

A course of perfecting developed socialism, tackling major tasks of economic and social development, raising the living standards of the Soviet people, further encouraging the creative activity of the mass of people and improving ideological work was being consistently pursued. The party was constantly focussing its attention on strengthening discipline, law and order, on cadres policy , on invigorating the activity of the Soviets, the Komsomol and the people's control, on the school reform, and on raising the role of literature and art in society. Active work is being done to prepare for the regular 27th CPSU Congress and to produce a new edition of the party programme.

The efforts of the party on the international scene were concentrated on the further development of comprehensive cooperation with the fraternal socialist countries. Transition to a new stage of socialist economic integration and the strengthening of the positions of the socialist community are associated with the activities of Konstantin Chernenko.

The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet state were firmly and consistently pursuing the principle of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, resolutely countering the agressive plans and aspirations of the more reactionary forces of imperialism and tirelessly struggling for an end to the arms race, imposed by imperialism, for the removal of the threat of nuclear war and for ensuring dependable security for the peoples.

In this hour of grave loss the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR address the Communists and the Soviet people with an appeal to rally even closer around the Leninist Central Commitee of the Party and its Politbureau. The working people of our country regard the Communist Party of the Soviet Union with full reason as the leading and guiding force of Soviet society. All the deeds and plans of the party are directed at the dedicated service to the basic interests of the Soviet people and to the cause of communism.

The CPSU is equipped with the immortal revolutionary Marxist-Leninist doctrine. It is following unflaggingly the road charted by Lenin and will never deviate from that road.

The party will continue to pursue its course towards all-round perfection of developed socialism. It regards a further rise in material and cultural standards of the people on the basis of the intensification of the economy and the acceleration of scientific and technical progress in every possible way as the supreme goal of its activity. The principle of social justice, inherent in socialism, will be carried out persistently to an ever further extent in all spheres of our life, the line towards strengthening discipline, order and organization, approved and backed by the country's working people, will be followed insistently. The party will continue to consolidate further the alliance between the working class collectivized peasantry and intelligentsia, and fraternal friendship of the Soviet peoples, which constitute the basis of the vital activity of our society, will develop socialist democracy. [sentence as received] The party regarded and regards as the supreme spiritual values of the Soviet people Marxist-Leninist conviction, collectivism, patriotism, and proletarian socialist internationalism.

The CPSU and the Soviet state have been doing and continue to do everything possible and necessary to strengthen the socialist community, to consolidate the positions of socialism on the world scene, to avert nuclear catastrophe and to ensure lasting peace. We want an end to the arms race and non-militarisation of space and are working perseveringly to achieve that goal. Our ultimate objective is the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere in the world, the complete removal of the threat of nuclear war. The Soviet Union has always advocated constructive dialogue and practical measures to lessen international tension and to establish an atmosphere of trust, cooperation and mutual understanding among all the peoples and states.

The Soviet Union threatens no one and does not seek military superiority. But it will not allow any other country or coalition of states to gain such superiority. That is why we will continue to enhance tirelessly our vigilance, to strengthen the defence capability of our socialist motherland.

Our sympathies and our support are with the peoples fighting for freedom and national independence.

In the struggle for peace and social progress, the CPSU invariably adheres to the consistent course towards uniting in every possible way the forces of the international communist and workers' movement.

The party's objectives are clear and noble. They enabled the CPSU to win infinite confidence of the working people. The strength of the party is in unity with the people. The strength of the people is in unity with the party, in its guidance.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, who devoted his entire life to serving loyally the party and the Soviet people, will remain forever in the memory of the Communists, all the Soviet people. He will live on in our memory as a fiery propagandist of Marxist-Leninist ideas, as a responsive and demanding leader, as a person who was keen and sensitive to the needs and concerns of the working people.

The CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR firmly believe that the Communists and all the Soviet people, displaying a high sense of conscientiousness and organisation, will work with even greater enthusiasm and dedication, strengthen the economic and defence potential of our homeland and carry on with honour the banner of the Great October Revolution.

Mourning Decree

LD111214 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1158 GMT 11 Mar 85

["In the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Mar (TASS) -- The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have decreed:

1. That following the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, days of mourning be declared in the country on 11, 12, and 13 March.

2. That at the moment of burial of the body of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, artillery salvoes are to be fired in Moscow, the capitals of the union republics, the hero-cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Odessa, Sebastopol, Novorossiysk, Kerch, and Tula, in the fortress-hero city of Brest, and also in the cities of Kaliningrad, Ivov, Rostov-on-Don, Kubyshev, Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, Chita, Khabarovsk, Vladivostok, and Krasnoyarsk.

At the same time work is to be halted for 5 minutes at all enterprises and organizations throughout the whole territory of the Soviet Union with the exception of continuous production process enterprises, and there is to be a 3-minute salute of sirens at factories, plants, on the railways, and on vessels of the marine and river fleet.

Obituary Published

LD111252 Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 11 TASS -- Follows the text of the obituary of Konstantin Chernenko, published here:

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Three-Times Hero of Socialist Labour Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko died on March 10, 1985, after a grave illness at age 73.

The heart of the outstanding figure of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, of the international communist and workers' movement stopped beating. Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko devoted all his life and work to the selfless service to the cause of the party and the people, to the struggle for consolidating the country's economic and defensive might, raising the well-being of Soviet people, for perfecting in all ways our socialist society, for preserving and consolidating peace on earth.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko was born on September 24 1911 into a peasants' family in the village of Bolshaya Tes, Novoselovo District, Krasnoyarsk Territory. K.U. Chernenko started work for early years, first as farmhand for wealthy peasants. All of his subsequent work was linked with leading activity at Komsomol and then party bodies. In 1929-1930, K.U. Chernenko was head of the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the Novoselovo District Committee of the YCL [Young Communists' League] of the Krasnoyarsk Territory. In 1930, he volunteered to the Red Army, where in 1931 he joined the Communist Party. Until 1933, he served in frontier troops, was secretary of a frontier-post party organization.

After finishing service in the Army, K.U. Chernenko worked in the Krasnoyarsk Territory: head of the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the Novoselovo and Uyar District Party Committees, director of the Krasnoyarsk Territorial Party Committee.

Beginning with 1945, upon graduation from the higher school of party organizers at the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks), Konstantin Chernenko worked as a secretary of the Penza Regional Party Committee and, beginning with 1948, as the head of the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Moldavia.

In 1956 he was promoted to the staff of the CPSU Central Committee and made a section head at the Propaganda Department. In 1960 he was appointed the head of the Secretariat of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and in 1965 made the head of the General Department of the CPSU Central Committee. Between 1966 and 1971 Konstantin Chernenko was an alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee and in March 1971 the 24th Party Congress elected him a member of the Central Committee. The March 1976 plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, which took place after the 25th Party Congress, elected him a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Beginning with 1977, Konstantin Chernenko was an alternate member of the Politbureau and beginning with 1978 a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee.

The extraordinary plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee on February 13, 1984, elected Konstantin Chernenko general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Konstantin Chernenko was elected a deputy to the 7th-11th Supreme Soviets of the USSR and a deputy to the 10-11th Supreme Soviets of the Russian Federation. The first session of the 11th Supreme Soviet of the USSR elected Konstantin Chernenko in April 1984 president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Konstantin Chernenko showed himself at the high posts entrusted to him by the party as a loyal and staunch Marxist-Leninist and an energetic fighter for peace and human happiness. Having a wealth of practical experience, in-depth knowledge of theory and outstanding gifts of politician and organiser, he made a great contribution to the collective work of the party Central Committee in drawing up and carrying out the general line of the CPSU, in fulfilling the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress and in developing and asserting the Leninist style of party and state work.

The CPSU's strategic course of perfecting socialism built in the USSR was thoroughly substantiated in Konstantin Chernenko's speech at the June 1983 plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee and in his other speeches and writings. The further elaboration and concretisation of the party's concept of developed socialism, which is the basis of the ongoing work to prepare a new edition of the CPSU programme, are associated with his name.

K.U. Chernenko devoted much effort and attention to perfecting forms and methods of ideological, educational and organizational work of the party in the masses, its cadre policy, improving the activity of soviets, trade unions and Komsomol, artistic unions, people's control bodies. K.U. Chernenko made a considerable contribution to working out school reform.

K.U. Chernenko showed much concern for raising the pace of public production growth, all-round intensification of the economy, acceleration of scientific and technical progress, perfection of the economic mechanism, strengthening of discipline and organization. His speech at the October (1984) plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee further developed the party's agrarian policy, set forth topical tasks of implementing the food programme and raising steadily living standards of the people.

Heading the Defence Council of the USSR, K.U. Chernenko made a greal deal to strengthen the country's defence capability and enhance the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces. [sentence as received]

In the complicated international situation, K.U. Chernenko tirelessly worked to translate into life the peaceful Leninist foreign policy of our party, directed at strengthening peace and international security, curbing the arms race and averting the threat of nuclear war. This policy has found and is finding unanimous support of the Soviet people, of all people of good will.

K.U. Chernenko gave special attention to developing and strengthening cooperation and cohesion of countries of the socialist community. He consistently favoured the consolidation of the unity of the world communist and workers' movement, came out in support of the peoples' national liberation struggle.

Many constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union were worked out at K.U. Chernenko's initiative, directed at improving the international situation, asserting the principles of peaceful co-existence of states with different social systems.

For great services to the country, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko received on three occasions the title of Hero of Socialist Labour, was awarded four Orders of Lenin, three Orders of the Red Banner of Labour, many medals of the Soviet Union and top decorations of fraternal countries. He is a laureate of the Lenin Prize.

K.U. Chernenko enjoyed profound respect and confidence of the Soviet people, our foreign friends. He always treated with understanding the needs and requirements of the working people, with principledness and personal modesty being his characteristic traits.

All of Konstanin Ustinovich Chernenko's life is a vivid example of steadfast loyalty to the great cause of the Leninist party, selfless work in the name of the triumph of the ideals of communism.

The food memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko will forever remain in the hearts of Commuists, all Soviet people.

[Signed] Central Committee of CPSU; Presidium of USSR Supreme Soviet; Council of Ministers of USSR

Medical Findings

LD111304 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1245 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 11 Mar (TASS) -- The medical findings on the illness and cause of death of Konstantin Chernenko have been published here.

Konstantin Chernenko, born in 1911, suffered for a long time from emphysema of the lungs, complicated by pulmonary-cardiac insufficiency. The gravity of his condition was worsened by concomitant chronic hepatitis turning into cirrhosis. Despite the therapy given, there was an increase in the hypoxic and dystrophic changes in the organs and fibers.

On 10 March 1985 at 1920, following manifestations of liver and pulmonary-cardiac insufficiency, the heart stopped. A postmortem confirmed the diagnosis.

The medical findings were signed by Academician Ye. Chazov; A. Chuchalin, M. Perelman, V. Smagin and A. Vorobyev, corresponding members of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences; F. Komarov and N. Krayevskiy, full members of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences; Professor V. Popov, merited figure of science Z. Osipova, the doctor in attendance; and Professor Yu. Postnov, merited figure of science.

GORBACHEV ELECTED NEW CPSU GENERAL SECRETARY

LD111520 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 11 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev was unanimously elected general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at a pre-term plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee that was held here today.

PRAVDA REPORTS CONTENTS OF KOMMUNIST NO 4

PM081324 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Mar 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Latest Issue of Journal"]

[Text] The fourth issue of KOMMUNIST, the CPSU Central Committee theoretical and political journal, has been published. It carries Comrade K. U. Chernenko's speech at the meeting with voters of Moscow City's Kuybyshevskiy Electoral Okrug, his replies to leaders of the Argentine movement "The Appeal of the 100 in the Name of Life" and to the northern European organization "Treaty Now," and his appeal to Italian readers.

The section "Towards the 27th Party Congress" is represented by an editorial article "A Party Firmly Knowing Its Way" (on the publication of K.U. Chernenko's book "Following the Path of Improving Developed Socialism"); and an article by G. Razumovskiy, first secretary of Krasnodar CPSU Kraykom, entitled "Key Element in Party Leadership."

The following articles are published under the rubric "Pages of Struggle": "The Moral Significance of the October Revolution" by M. Lifshits; and "The PRPZ and Lenin's Ideological Legacy" by Marian Orzechowski, candidate member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and rector of the PZPR Academy of Social Sciences.

The section "For Our Soviet Motheland" carries acticles by Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate: "At the Head of the Victor-People"; and by Yu. Drunina: "Our Girls Too March in Greatcoats..."

PRAVDA URGES PROFESSIONALISM OF PARTY BODIES

PM071617 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Mar 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Learning Professionalism"]

[Text] Situation such as the following occur: Two party committees work side by side, make decisions, carry out measures, but the results differ. In one place matters progress rapidly, while in the other progress is scarcely perceptible. Why? One of the reasons lies in the different level of professionalism of these committees.

Professionalism involves many components. It includes the skillful education of cadres, the profound substantiation of decisions, the consistent and precise monitoring of their fulfillment... Lenin's idea about the need to choose the means, ways, and methods, capable of producing the biggest and most lasting results with the least expenditure of forces is well known. Today, in conditions of improving developed socialism, Lenin's idea sounds particularly topical, as a real formula for professionalism.

"Persistently improving their own style of activity, party committees are called on to actively influence the style of work of state and economic organs, too," Comrade K.U. Chernenko notes, "and to influence primarily by exemplary organization of their own work and by increasing exactingness."

It is very important for a party committee at every stage to define a goal of paramount social significance. For example, Vladimir Oblast Party Organization, whose experience has been approved by the CPSU Central Committee, is doing a great deal to mobilize working people to intensify the policy of saving physical resources. The oblast has managed to create a precise system of forms and methods of party organizational and political influence on the solution of this task and to ensure a comprehensive approach to it. Attention is concentrated mainly on accelerating the development and introduction of progressive equipment and technology, enhancing output quality, and improving the organization of production and labor. As a result, in the current 5-year plan increasing preferential development of industrial production and construction and construction and installation work has been achieved in comparison with growth in material expenditure. Last year alone in industry this expenditure was reduced by 0.6 percent in addition to the planned amount.

Specific work, specific result: This is where the efforts of any party committee must be directed primarily. Of course, it will achieve most success if there are close contacts with people, labor collectives, and primary party organizations. By relying on their creative thinking and energy the best and most rational way to resolve any particular task can always be found.

When studying an issue prior to the adoption of another resolution, it is important to properly weigh up all the circumstances and examine different opinions attentively, in order to choose and consider the most practical of them.

It is for this reason that the work of plenums, bureau sessions, and party meetings must be improved, increasing their efficiency and ensuring a genuine rather than purely formal discussion.

Do people genuinely concern themselves about this everywhere? No, there are still many instances of businesslike advice being replaced by cheerless personal reports and standardized approvals. Some people resort to sessions as though to a panacea: They are supposedly designed to improve the situation by themselves. However, when checked out, it proves to be sessionmania, which drains people of resources and time, but has little effect on real matters.

This was the case until recently in a number of party organizations in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast. For instance, Kuybyshevskiy Party Raykom Bureau discussed 1,600 questions in 2 and 1/2 years. While Kurgan-Tyube Gorkom discussed even more, around 2,000. That means 25-30 questions at one time. This overloading of sessions resulted in discussion being conducted in a rush and general and unspecific decisions being taken. Naturally, they did not achieve their aim.

Behind a decision there must be work and the organization of its execution! This must be a firm rule everywhere. After all, even the very best document has no magic power and can remain a mere scrap of paper. Only persistent organizational work and effective monitoring are able to transform what has been planned into reality.

The firm establishment of professionalism places many obligations on our economic cadres. In contemporary conditions, they, and indeed all leaders, are required to display the highest party-mindedness and ideological conviction, competence and responsibility, and the skill of working with people. In addition they need to be able to think in an economically competent and up-to-date way and to orient themselves toward effectiveness and intensive growth factors. They must resolutely rid themselves of established stereotyped ways of thought. It is in this spirit that party committees are called on to educate economic leaders, ensuring unity of word and deed.

To be faithful to one's word is a law for leaders. If a plan has been approved or a pledge adopted, there can be no question of not fulfilling it. Yet some people are lavish with promises for the platform, but when the deadline arrives for implementing what has been promised, they do not display due persistence and professionalism. Words are cast to the winds.

The party directs us to tighten up responsibility for slackness and violations of executive discipline. We must bear in mind that it is difficult to expect accordance of word and deed without the strictest discpline, but this must not, of course, be tolerated. The attempts by some economic leaders to embellish the situation by means of writeups and deception are especially impermissible. Such instances demoralize leading cadres. People must be taken to task for this in accordance with very strict party norms and soviet laws.

We have several workers who are capable of conducting matters with initiative, rationally, and with big returns. Their experience requires attentive study and broader dissemination. The call of the times is to persistently learn the science and art of management and to learn professionalism. Greater services must be rendered in this by institutes and courses for improving qualifications, seminars, and practical scientific conferences, which are aimed at providing as substantive as possible an analysis of the best experience of management and party leadership of the economy.

Preparing for its 27th congress, the party is focusing attention on stepping up the professionalism of each party organization and all cadres. This is the guarantee of the successful completion of the 5-year plan and the resolution of the latest key tasks, on which the further accelerated progress of our society depends.

PRAVDA ARTICLE DISCUSSES DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY

PM071220 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 85 First Edition pp 2,3

[Article by S. Sokolov under the rubric "Questions of Theory": "Socialist Democracy: The Creativity of the Masses"]

[Text] Back in the days of Great October, V.I. Lenin noted that the initiative and vital creativity of the masses constitute the basic factor of the new community (see "Complete Collected Works," Vol 35 p 57).

These stipulations, tested by specific historical practice, make its obligatory to display an even more attentive attitude toward the vital creativity of the people's masses, the forms of labor and struggle originating among them, and the diverse modern experience in resolving the innovative tasks of improving developed socialism. They help us to better understand the sources of working its manifestations within the framework of Soviet society's political system.

"Our main reference point in the development of the political system," Comrade K.U. Chernenko has noted, "is to fully implement the people's socialist self-management [samoupravleniye]. We perceive this as a democratic system for managing the affairs of society and the state which, in Lenin's words, operates not only for the working people but also through the working people themselves. This will, of course, require the further growth of the party's role and a qualitative increase in the standard of party-political leadership of society."

The principles governing the party's mutual relations with other working class organizations and also with organizations encompassing the broad people's masses were theoretically substantiated by V.I. Lenin back in the pre-October years. It was also at that time that the forms of these mutual relations were tested in practice. Working within the mass associations of working people, the Bolshevik party guided their activity along revolutionary tracks by means of its deeds and its own example.

A special role was assigned to the soviets, the organs born out of the masses' creativity and capable of rallying the broadest people's masses around the common goals. The CPSU Central Committee Resolution "On the 80th Anniversary of the 1905-1907 Revolution in Russia" says: "V.I. Lenin saw the soviets as the prototype of the future socialist statehood that was finally established by victorious October."

Following the victory of October, and under new historical conditions, the party, relying on the vast experience accumulated in the course of class battles, honed the forms and methods of leading the masses and their organizations. It carefully examined the people's creativity, singled out its most viable forms, and consolidated them in practice. It was the Leninist party that rallied all revolutionary and progressive forces of the working class and the whole people, uniting them within the system of the dictatorship of the proletariat with the help of soviets, trade unions, and various "nonparty" mass organizations. In this way it created a base for the further expansion of working people's initiative and activeness in the process of building the new society.

The autonomous activity [samodeyatelnost] and creative energy of the masses is translated into reality primarily in the primary cells of society -- the labor collectives. This was where it all began: In the plants, factories, rural areas, and villages where economic management, and at the same labor relations, were established and reorganized along socialist lines. Just as V.I. Lenin envisaged it, this sociopolitical and economic activeness by working people brought to life various forms of historical creativity by the masses -- shockwork and socialist competition, the Stakhanovite movement, and the truly mass struggle to boost labor productivity and master new technologies.

The party line of further developing democratic principles in production is now being consistently implemented in the decisive sphere of human activity, where man does his daily work and applies his creative energy. This helps strengthen the integrity of our social system and the fusion of basic personal, collective, and statewide interests. The law on labor collectives made an important contribution to the enrichment of Lenin's ideas and practice of socialist self-management. Labor collectives' powers, particularly in the labor management sphere, have been considerably expanded. At the same time, this in no way means that, to use Lenin's words, "the process of collective labor can be left without definite leadership, without accurate definition of a leader's responsibility, or without the strictest order created by the leader's undivided resolve [yedinstvo voli]" (Vol 36 p 157).

It must be said in general that the discovery of the optimum form of democratic centralism -- the fundamental principle of the organization and activity of the Soviet state and the entire political system -- is one of the basic problems of improving democracy in developed socialist society. It has been correctly noted in Soviet scientific literature that the trend toward reassigning management functions "from the top toward the bottom," to an increasingly broad circle of organs and persons and an increasingly broad circle of working people, has been clearly manifested in parallel and in unity with the trend toward consolidating the principle of centralism in the management system.

Of course, our perception of self-management differs in principle from the anarcho-syndicalist interpretation or simplistic and one-sided views of it. The All-Union Scientific and Practical Conference on questions of ideological work noted in particular that self-management is at times either linked with the activity of only isolated cells of socialist society or counterposed to state management. At other times the practical implementation of the principles of self-management is postponed until the translation to the highest phase of communism.

All elements of the Soviet political system and all forms of organization of the social activeness of the masses share a common feature: a combination of their autonomous nature with precise organization that stems mainly from the fact that they are rallied around the soviets and operate on a common state law basis.

The soviets, organically combining state power with people's self-management, constitute the USSR's political foundation. They are a powerful means of organizing the masses and expanding their autonomous activity, their activeness, and their initiative, and are a fundamentally new form of their historic creativity organized on a state basis.

The soviets' democratic nature is materialized particularly forcefully today, when there is a steady growth of the role played by representative organs of people's power in economic and cultural building. The CPSU Central Committee April (1984) Plenum noted that the activation of each deputy's work is the key to boosting the efficiency of soviets' work and implementing their extremely rich potential.

The recent elections to union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and local soviets turned into a direct and graphic expression of the people's will. They confirmed with renewed force the truly people's nature of our power, which expresses the fundamental interests of all social groups and strata and all generations of Soviet people. Numerous instructions [nakaz] were submitted during the election campaign as to how to improve the work of our organs of power and economic management. Incidentally, this is also another channel through which the creative thinking of the masses influences the practical work of management. The party sets the task of giving careful and most attentive consideration to these instructions, generalizing them, and this is the most important point, implementing them.

The role and influence of various social organizations are increasing. This is explained by a number of factors. First, the increased complexity of the microstructure of Soviet society and the spotlighting in everyday life of nonclass differences that were previously of secondary importance, hence the need for the most attentive consideration of the features and interests of each professional group, age group, and so forth. It is only important to ensure that the multiplicity of interests and their richness (the variety of mass associations and social organizations is also a consequence of this) is concentrated around single all-state goals and cemented by nationwide, all-state interests and a united will.

The question of the correlation between the state and social roles in administration and the collaboration of voluntary associations with organs of state power is urgent from the theoretical and practical political viewpoint. It is well known that the state as a nationwide organization will be maintained until the total victory of communism. At the same time, alongside a generally correct definition of the communist future, our literature has sometimes featured simplistic ideas about ways of fostering a "nationwide system" [obshchenarodnost] and developing socialist statehood into communist social self-management. Thus, it has been asserted that this process is a kind of "transfusion" of functions from the state social organizations and a mechanical expansion of their rights and powers, and that precisely the most important state functions can be carried out equally effectively on a voluntary basis.

The practice of the development of socialist people's power has shown that this forecast was unjustified. Increasing the role of social organizations does not run counter to the need to further strengthen and develop the state as the main instrument of socialist and communist building and state administration. Deepening Soviet democracy means harmoniously developing the entire socialist political system, not just one part of it.

Socialist democracy means daily practical participation by increasing numbers of working people in the management of society at all levels and in all its components. But here is what the "activeness" of citizens of the United States, the largest capitalist country, which prides itself on its democracy, looks like: According to calculations by U.S. political scientists, less than 10 percent of citizens attend political meetings and rallies during election campaigns and no more than 5 percent belong to political parties and organizations. It is often the same people who attend rallies, belong to various organizations, or manifest political activeness in some other way. Unable to hide the low level of mass participation in politics, bourgeous ideologists try to present it as beneficial. A so-called "elitist theory of democracy" has been advanced, whereby the passivity of the "man in the street" and his lack of political interest are by no means considered an evil or a shortcoming, but, on the contrary, are symptoms of the system's rationality, the "masses' faith in the government," and their satisfaction with the state of affairs.

The living, creative process of building the new society and improving developed socialism is inconceivable without the leading and guiding role of the Communist Party.

Its growth is a reflection of the objective requirement for the further progress of socialist society at its mature stage when the interconnection and interdependence of economic, sociopolitical, and spiritual factors is becoming closer than ever. The party alone, the front-ranking and organized detachment of the working class and the vanguard of the entire people, is capable of developing a scientifically substantiated strategy for forward progress and developing and channeling people's energies into organized and planned work. Consideration and harmonization of the interests of every social group and every section of Soviet society and the ability to correctly combine them with nationwide interests and communist goals and ideals form the basis of this art of political leadership.

"The growth of the leading role of the party and the deepening of socialist democracy," Comrade K.U. Chernenko has noted, "is a unified, integral, natural process. The party will continue to conduct an extensive search for new and still more effective means of implementing people's power and to strive to make better use of the forms that have been tried and tested in practice."

The most important means of party influence on the processes of the development of Soviet society's political system is the power of democratic example. The principles and norms of party life developed and honed over the course of decades have entered the practice of state and social life and are becoming norm for every Soviet citizen. Of course, this process is complex and still by no means complete. However, the basic principle of party building, that of democratic centralism, already defines the activity of our entire national economic and political system, and the norms of the comradely, collectivist ethics of Communists are becoming standard in Soviet people's behavior.

In leading the improvement of developed socialism and the progress toward communism, the party is firmly guarding and developing Leninist ideological and organizational foundations, principles, and norms of party life and the principles of leadership of soviets and social organizations and is improving intraparty relations.

Our party has now embarked on the period of practical preparations for its next, 27th, congress. On the eve of this great political event the CPSU is striving to invigorate Communists' collective thinking, make fuller use of the masses' rich experience, and on that basis determine the guidelines for nationwide creation in a scientifically profound and objective way. The prospects and goals linked with our people's main task, improving developed socialism, will be clearly sketched out in the new edition of the CPSU program.

At the same time proposals are also being worked out on possible changes to the party rules. The party rules, like the new edition of the program, will reflect the high demands on the organization of the party's internal life, the style and methods of activity of each of its components, Communists' work and behavior, and their activeness, responsibility, and discipline stemming from the CPSU's political course.

Improving the developed socialism we have built is inseparable from the further development of the masses' creative initiative and autonomous activity. It is the result of their revolutionary transformational practice that is "gathering momentum" as socialist democracy increasingly expands and deepens.

Activating all components of Soviet society's political system is a subject of particular concern for the Communist Party. It is consistently carrying out its historic mission defined by V.I. Lenin on the eve of October -- to be the leader, teacher, organizer, and guide of the working people and to lead the entire people to communism.

CPSU DECISION TO HELP WITH HOUSING REPAIRS

LD110103 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 10 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; commentary by political observer Viktor Beketov: "The State's Concern in Response to the Public's Demands"]

[Text] Greetings, comrades. Probably each one of us is familiar with the efforts connected with flat repairs or construction work, be it in the house or on the garden allotment; and although, in our basic specializations we are, in the majority, removed from the construction professions, yet for a while we become clerks of the works and suppliers, estimators, and designers. Lend an ear, for example, to what individual people building their own houses are talking about: Where can you get cement, or bricks? How can one assess and monitor the work of the builders, and do it in such a fashion that everything is according to law, that on every occasion there are the appropriate receipts? The task, to speak frankly, is very difficult. After all, public services today can satisfy only one out of every five demands for flat repairs. The erection of houses and facilities for gardening associations remains as before, in the main, the business of the people who build their houses themselves [zastroyshchiki]. This forces them to have recourse to the help of private individuals. As a result, a significant part of the populations savings is transferred not to the state budget but to the pockets of cowboys [shabashniki].

One of the basic reasons for this situation is the weak material base of the repair-construction organizations, the low level of their technical equipment, and the shortage of qualified cadres. From this come numerous complaints about the bad quality of jobs and the long time taken to execute orders. Meanwhile, the population's demand for public, including construction, services is rising steadily; what contributes to this is the consistent rise in the well-being and wages of the working people.

A new manifestation of concern for the welfare of the Soviet people, for a fuller satisfaction of their requirements is the examination, at a regular meeting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, of the issue of measures to develop services at the population's demands. The matter at hand is the reapir and construction of dwellings, improved decoration and equipment of flats, the erection of buildings for gardening associations, and garages and parking spaces for individual means of transport. In the decision adopted on this issue, specific tasks have been determined, aimed at a significant increase in the volume of repair-construction services. To fulfill these assignments, apart from organizations being set up specially, the construction subdivisions of their ministries and departments will be drawn in. Planning and supply organizations have been commissioned to supply these assignments with material-technical resources.

The new decision by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers is called upon to lighten our domestic efforts by raising them to the rank of the state's concerns, and by putting them on a good quality, planned footing. Side by side with other decisions by the party and government, this document will contribute to the implementation of the integrated program of the development of the production of consumer goods and the services system.

BAM RAILROAD CHIEF DESCRIBES WORK ON NEW BRANCH

LD091128 Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Berkakit March 9 TASS -- Work began on the Baykal-Amur Mainline (BAM) Railroad to build a 830-kilometer offshoot from Berkakit to Yakutsk via Tommot, whose proposed construction was approved at the last meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee.

Yefim Basin, first deputy chief of the BAM building project, told TASS that although both this year and in the next five-year plan period (1986-1990) the main effort will be put into completing the so-called bigger BAM for commercial operation, plans provide for building the projected new railroad at a fast pace. Already, mechanized construction teams, bridge-building crews and explosion drilling units as well as some general-purpose construction organizations, which have finished their jobs on bigger BAM, are starting work on the Berkakit Tommot-Yakutsk route.

"We understand full well how important the new line is to economic development in the country's north-east and to tapping the explored natural wealth in Yakutia which does not have reliable transport communications yet," Basin said. Yakutia, a Soviet autonomous republic, is currently supplied with cargoes by the Amur-Yukutia motor road and the Lena River, which costs dearly and involves seasonal interruptions.

The construction of the new BAM offshoot, Basin said, will give a powerful impetus to the further development of also the South Yakutian territorial-production complex, with Chulman coal fields, Tayezhninsky and Chara-Tokkin iron ore deposits and other mineral storerooms lying north of it.

The new line will run straight north from "smaller BAM". Though they will be fewer per kilometer than on BAM proper, the engineering structures that have to be built there will total an impressive 700-odd, including more than 20 big bridges, and some 70 million cubic meters of earth will have to be placed on the railroad's bed. Besides, workers on this line will face even more adverse climatic and terrain conditions than on the BAM route, Basin said.

The new line will be using diesel locomotives rather than electric traction.

AZERBAIJAN SSR'S PARTY AKTIVS DISCUSS OBLIGATIONS

GF041836 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1700 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The land of the Azerbaijan SSR is rich with various resources. Oil, however, is most important of all. The oil resources are rich, but extracting this wealth is becoming more and more difficult. The republic's oil extraction workers are using the most modern technological means to successfully extract oil from the fields for the second and third time. They have broadened the struggle for high technology, work discipline, and organization. They are determined to [words indistinct] end of the year of active preparation for meeting the 27th CPSU Congress and for observing the 40th anniversary of the great victory with successful work, and realize in an honorable way the obligation set by Konstantin Chernenko for increasing oil extraction.

The meeting held by the republic's party economic aktivs on 2 March discussed the obligations related to the task of securing (?steady work) in the oil and gas extraction industry as required by Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Comrade Kyamran Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, opened the meeting with an address. Comrade Vasiliy Konovalov, second secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, read a report.